

His assistant, commissioner general for black metallurgy, Major General Ganeken, tried to protect the magnates:

- Herr Reichsmarschall, excessive state concentration of economic opportunities in one place reduces the room for maneuvering ...

"You mean 'for fraud', Gahneken?" Goering immediately retorted.

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Stalin did not know about this either, but he understood that fat Herman was not easy, not easy ... Dimitrov confirmed this, honestly admitting that the quarrel with Goering in Leipzig was not easy for him. - I was able to

take advantage of his temper and, I will not hide, provoked him. But he is not so stupid. Very much, Comrade Stalin," said the head of the Comintern.

Yes, Göring was important as a figure in promoting economic convergence. Political rapprochement will be ensured by Hitler himself and he - Stalin. So, Goering ...

And who should
he throw as partners?

PLEASE, from any point of view, Goering's partner fell out to be Stalin's new deputy for the Council of People's Commissars, Ivan Tevosyan. Tevosyan had already met the Reichsmarschall in 1940, but so far it was hardly possible to talk about anything more than just a visual acquaintance. They saw each other several times in the atmosphere of official and short meetings, but they had never really looked into each other's eyes for real. Now they had to do it - if Hitler and Göring accepted Stalin's

proposal that Tevosian visit for personal negotiations with Göring, as the economic leader of the Reich, a kind of dictator of German industry. Setting the stage for such

development of events, Tevosyan - with the sanction of Stalin, of course - turned to the Commissioner for the implementation of the four-year plan, Hermann Goering, with a personal letter. It was decided to transfer it through some reputable courier.

A very successful opportunity in

all respects also turned up - the new commander of the Air Force and the head of the Flight Test Institute, Gromov, flew to Germany. And precisely for a meeting with the chief of the Luftwaffe. No less famous than Goering, a world-famous pilot, Gromov had to conduct negotiations as a representative of the Soviet Air Force and at the same time as a representative of the aviation industry. Everything was logical and natural - Gromov will start, Tevosyan will continue and consolidate.

MIKHAIL Mikhailovich Gromov was in the forty-second year of 1941 ... He was born in Tver, studied at theoretical courses at the Higher Technical School, at the age of nineteen he joined the Red Army and since then has flown everything that people flew before him, and also on what no one had flown before him, since he worked a lot as a tester. In July 1937, he was the second after his student Chkalov, together with Yumashev and Danilin, to fly over the Pole to the USA. And in the 41st he was appointed head of the Main Directorate of the Air Force of the Red Army instead of the failed Pavel Rychagov. Gromov, on the other hand, fit perfectly into the new place. Aviation People's Commissar

Shakhurin admired Mikhail Mikhailovich: "You can check your watch with it! And he always carries himself, but not on the ground, but in the air! The new head of Soviet aviation really did not drive a car wherever possible, but flew in a light aircraft, significantly saving time and due to this, being in time with business both at the Air Force command and at the LII (where, however, his deputy helped him a lot in Science Professor Chesalov). Now the general had a new one - if not a record, but a very serious flight from Moscow to Berlin. Before that, he had never been in Berlin, and, preparing for the flight,

he involuntarily recalled his beloved student, the deceased Valerian Chkalov, who in the 36th

In 1992, he was returning from an aviation exhibition at Le Bourget in his red ANT-25 and spent two days in the capital of the Reich at the end of December. Chkalov brought gloomy impressions from there - then, in 1936, Valery was rushing from Paris for at least a few days to Spain. He really wanted to fill up on his favorite "donkey" a couple of "Messers". And so he spoke evilly about the Germans and Berlin, with his heart. However, at that time

many were rushing to Spain. Since then, a lot of water has boiled away in the radiators of Chkalovsky and Gromov's cars, a lot has burned out in gasoline engines. Chkalov himself burned down. And Gromov was now flying to Berlin to meet and negotiate with Goering. In the nature

of Mikhail Mikhailovich there was no place for the slightest pose - although the dimensions of the nature of "pilot number 1" did not offend. He was always so detailed that in someone else this thoroughness could be mistaken for excessive caution, if not cowardice. But then Gromov himself asked Stalin to allow him to make two demonstration flights in Germany.

- On what, comrade Gromov? Stalin immediately asked. - On the I-16. Stalin slyly

looked at the pilot: - What, Comrade

Gromov, do you want to show off in front of the Germans? Forcing?

Gromov

understood that Stalin was not speaking seriously, but behind the seemingly joking question was a serious desire to understand the motive for Mikhail Mikhailovich's request. Therefore, Gromov answered simply:

- It's not about force, Comrade Stalin. Firstly, it is best to establish relations with the same Goering in a pilot way - a direct demonstration of my capabilities. And you can't convince his Luftwaffe with speeches so easily ... Better - in the air ... He smiled and

added: - Then it will be

easier to speak on the ground. I think Hitler himself also needs to be shown that he doesn't have aces alone ... Well, and most importantly, I first wanted to practice on the Yakovlev machine, and then I decided: let Pasha Fedrovi and Suprun fly there on the new Yak and MiG-third. And I will show - just in case - what a Soviet pilot can squeeze out of an I-16 ... Friendship is friendship, but show teeth

doesn't interfere...

Stalin was silent, and Gromov, outwardly calm, tensed up. And Stalin seemed to be looking directly, but somehow through him, as if he saw there, in front, something of his own, visible only to him. And suddenly he smiled - unusually embarrassed and open. And with a special intonation said suddenly:

- You, friends, have grown up, Stalin's falcons! Previously, they thought in the air, but now they have learned on the ground ... Well done, Mikhail Mikhailovich! All decided correctly. Both politically and psychologically ... But - no more than two flights!

Still outwardly imperturbable, but, of course, Flattered and delighted, Gromov cautiously said:

- They have a circus performer, they say. In Hollywood, on the set, he lifted a crocheted scarf almost from the ground on the wingtip of his car!

- No scarves! And show me the program of your flights - with all the figures and altitudes of execution. At least fifty meters! You yourself, comrade Gromov, just said that what is needed here is not a circus, but a demonstration of the piloting and combat capabilities of our far from the newest fighter. I agree, it must be presented effectively. That's why I allow it. Yes, and you will immediately strengthen your reputation with this flight, no doubt. Gromov, not

embarrassed, said: - Comrade

Stalin, don't worry! I report to you with all responsibility and can assure you in writing and officially that nothing will ever happen to me in flight.

"Why are you so sure, Comrade Gromov?" And with a very experienced pilot, trouble can happen, "Stalin objected, before whose eyes a laughing, lively Chkalov suddenly appeared. Gromov, it seems,

was also remembered by his student and friend, because he sighed heavily, thoughtfully, and answered this way:

- Here's how, Comrade Stalin ... No matter how much I fly, I always fly with an airplane ... I believe in my wonderful mechanics, but I always check everything myself before departure. And when I get on a plane, I always wipe my feet ...

Do you wipe your feet? Stalin asked thoughtfully. - Yes, feet ... You said it well, Mikhail Mikhailovich ... Our work is dusty ... Therefore, you need to wipe your feet thoroughly - so that

inadvertently my eyes didn't powder when life is upside down
puts...

* * *

GUESTS from Moscow flew to Berlin in early May on two passenger planes - PS-35 and PS-84. Goering himself met them. Although Gromov's rank was generally significantly lower than that of his master, the Reichsmarshal decided to disregard official etiquette - he really wanted to look at the Russian ace general as soon as possible. In addition, Gromov flew, after all, to negotiate with him, Goering. And flew in with serious powers. Not least important was the fact that Goering was informed about Tevosyan's personal letter, and this, as it were, removed the difference in the status of the greeter and the person being met.

The silver PS-35 was the first to land brilliantly and unusually quickly and landed softly, finishing the run exactly in front of the group surrounding the Reichsmarschall. Inspector General, Luftwaffe, Field Marshal Milch, looking at the smoothly taxiing car,

admiringly declared: - Yes,

it is clear that a master of his craft is sitting at the helm! Erhard Milch - the son of a Jewish pharmacist (it was claimed, however, that in fact his mother had sinned with a German baron) - was a competent judge, although he had never been a pilot. However, both of his Iron Crosses of the 1st and 2nd classes, Milch received in the First World War, commanding the 6th Fighter Group. Then, over many years, he also saw a lot of workshops and clumsy landings, for in the 20s he headed Lufthansa. So Milch assessed the style of the Russian pilot professionally. "Most likely, this is Gromov himself," the Reichsmarshal muttered, and, as

Later it turned out that I was not mistaken.

The PS-84 landed second, and also masterfully ... But its speed was less. The propellers of the two "PS", having unscrewed their own in a long flight, stopped. A tall, stately, Nordic-type Russian general, dressed in an unusual, strict, not smart, not pompous, but almost refined and

elegant shape. A dark blue cap with white piping, a dark blue uniform, trousers with blue stripes tucked into chrome boots, a white shirt with a tie, gold stars on blue triangular buttonholes - this uniform has just been introduced into the Russian Air Force, updating its old version of the Spanish times.

And without introductions, it was clear that this is Gromov.

Looking at Goering, at the aces surrounding him with Knight's crosses on tight necks and generals in bluish-gray uniforms, Mikhail Mikhailovich for some reason remembered how, at the very beginning of the 30s, he was once connected to the problem of refueling in the air. And it immediately became clear that there were many difficulties in this matter, and the most serious one was to find each other. The meeting was especially bad in bad weather. The tanker simply dissolved in the clouds.

Now it was necessary to look for a partner not in the air, but on the ground, and the political "fog" was still thicker than any meteorological one. Gromov spoke German decently and therefore, without looking back at the interpreter, he resolutely stepped towards the Reichsmarshal, threw his hand to the cap, saluting, and then held out his hand and firmly, calmly introduced

himself: - General

Gromov! - I am glad to welcome you, the world-famous ace, general, to the land of the Reich! Goering replied

seriously. And Gromov, looking back at those who flew in with him, sparingly, but without a frown, smiled and said:

- Allow me, Herr Reichsmarschall, to introduce you to my comrades ...

We left the airport for lunch. Goering was amiable, joking. His gloomy airfield mood was gone - he liked the Russians, and he had not been in the circle of Russians like this for a long time - without much official tension. And he knew the Russians, what Gromov and said:

- I visited you, Herr General, in the 35th and 36th years at military maneuvers as an observer ... And I was delighted with the mass landing of the 35th year during the exercises of the Kiev Military District ... To be honest - I can now admit it representative of a friendly army, it was your brilliant landings that gave me the impetus to create the German parachute troops.

- Yes, I myself, Herr Reichsmarschall, was engaged in this business ... And I remember the maneuvers of the 35th year - east of Kyiv. In the area of Brovary - Gogolev ...

- That's right! We were amazed! In ten minutes, almost three thousand people landed with parachutes and immediately opened fire! And Marshal Voroshilov laughed - you didn't see, they say, a landing force of six thousand people! "It happened that

they landed more," Gromov remarked. Goering called the taut general, introduced: - General Student ... Our paratrooper ... The student was attentive and listened to stories

about the Kiev maneuvers, afraid to miss a word - after all, the last preparations for the landing on Crete were already in full swing. Of course, the guest was not even hinted at this, but soon all three were carried away by discussing how best to carry out the landing and in what formation ... The international language of flight gestures helped speech, the palms of the interlocutors rose higher, lower, lined up one after the other, laid turns ... And the atmosphere became relaxed.

A THROUGH a day Gromov was preparing for a demonstration flight. The I-16, flown by him back in Moscow, was delivered with all the precautions on a platform by rail to Berlin by a group of engineers and technicians. In the morning, Gromov made a couple of test flights, and by three in the afternoon, spectators, led by Goering, were supposed to come to the show. The presence of the Fuhrer was not ruled out. A bright red plane with a white spinner stood

on a green airfield and was guarded by vigilant technicians in cornflower blue overalls, among whom, just in case, were NKVD officers. Immediately there were the same bright red, swift lines of Yak-1 and MiG-3 fighters, on which the testers Fedrovi and Suprun were supposed to fly. They were brought to Berlin along with Gromov's donkey. Gromov was calm. The hands on the clock showed half past three, the weather was excellent, flying, with a high sky and rare

white clouds. Nearly half an hour passed; and a cortege entered the field.

"Looks like the Fuhrer has also granted," he said calmly to Fedrovi and Suprun, who were standing nearby. Suprun silently nodded. It was not the first time he was in Germany, and in general he had a rare foreign experience - Suprun was born in Canada and spent his childhood there. Pasha Fedrovi was worried... But his excitement was probing, that is, not nervous, not hysterical, but forcing you to pull yourself together, pull yourself up and do everything right.

Hitler himself did indeed come with Goering. But the pilots had serious work to do, and therefore the presentation was short and business-like, after which Gromov went to the plane. He slowly approached him, greeted the mechanic again, and asked: "How, Mikhalych, is everything all

right?" The mechanic, Gromov's namesake by patronymic, answered: - Everything is in openwork, Mikhalych.

Well, let's check it out

then! Gromov, according to the once and for all established and under no circumstances unchangeable order, checked the car, carefully wiped his feet on the rug spread by Mikhalych, and climbed into the cab along the ladder. He looked around, buckled up and began to try out the motor and steering

wheels. And so he

took off. Boldly, richly, he tied up a cascade of complex figures near the very ground ... Roll, rising barrel, Immelmann ... Loop, climb and - spin with access to a combat turn ... And again - roll, loop ... Piloting was performed smoothly, elegantly, cleanly ... In a thunderous way. Fedrovi flew

after him. For

Fedrovi - Suprun. Finally - so to speak, for an

"encore" - the two of them had a demonstrative air battle. Everything took less than an hour. The Germans were delighted ... At that time, the core of brilliant combat aces had already formed in the Luftwaffe. Such a reckless driver as Marcel repeated Udet's trick with a scarf: at the end of a meter-high bamboo pole - a scarf; the fighter descends to the height of the pole and, on the aisle, picks up a handkerchief from the pole with its wingtip. Spectators

stunned.

The Russians did not remove their headscarves from the pole, but, after all, air combat is not a circus, although acrobatics will not hurt any pilot. But the air universalism Gromov and the guys demonstrated, and the Germans appreciated it. And, as Gromov and Stalin had expected, they began to treat the guests more relaxed, comradely.

On May 12, Gromov flew to Moscow, taking with him Goering's answer to Tevosyan and a number of preliminary business agreements with Goering and German aviation firms.

Chapter 12. Foros, Sevastopol and Operation Atlantis

On June 3, 1941, General Halder wrote in his diary:

“Stalin's conversation with the Finnish envoy (Heininen), during which Stalin emphasized the desire to maintain good neighborly relations with Finland. Finns have been offered 20,000 tons of grain.”

At that time, Paasikivi was the envoy to the USSR, and P. Yu. Hänninen only temporarily replaced him. But, having distorted the name of Hänninen, Halder wrote down everything else correctly. The collective-farm grain economy of the USSR was already firmly established, and by the beginning of June it became clear that a successful year promised an unprecedented harvest for Russia. So we had something to share with good neighbors in 1941.

But the Yankees were not inclined to share anything with anyone. More Moreover, they did not want to give away valuables that did not belong to them, even to the legitimate owners of these valuables. And on June 14, 1941, Roosevelt signed a decree freezing the assets of Germany and Italy in the United States. Two days later, on June 16, he demanded that Germany close all of its consulates in the United States. It wasn't a declaration of war yet, but America was quickly moving out of even "shitty" neutrality. And life went on. On June 18, 1941, in Ankara,

the highly experienced Friedrich von Papen, the German ambassador, and the no less experienced Turkish Foreign Minister Sukru Saracoglu signed a German-Turkish treaty on territorial inviolability and friendship. The parties pledged not to take measures directly or indirectly directed against each other. Almost two years ago, on October 19, 1939, the same Saracoglu concluded in the same Ankara for a period

of 15 years a de facto union agreement on mutual assistance with England and France. The treaty provided for Anglo-French assistance to Turkey in the event of aggression against her, but also assistance from Turkey in the event of an act

aggression of a European power, which led to a war in the Mediterranean Sea, in which France and England will be involved.

Taking into account the fact that both last powers in the declarations of April 13, 1939 gave guarantees of the inviolability of Greece and Romania, Turkey had to help Greece after Germany invaded it. But it didn't help. Actually, there was a nuance here: the Germans invaded Greece only after the British entered Greece themselves - before the German aggression. True, Italy, an ally of the Reich, was the first to start aggression against the Greeks, but Turkey did not come out against

Italy either. There was one more nuance: the tripartite treaty of 1939 after the capitulation of France in 1940 had, in fact, a dubious legal basis - Turkey agreed with the two powers, counting on their joint support in which case ... And now to expect help from France didn't have to. And what kind of France were we talking about? On the territory of France there was a fairly legitimate pro-German government of Marshal Petain in Vichy. And outside it was de Gaulle's "Free France" with an indeterminate status. However, the Turks - just in case - made a clause in the

Papen-Saracoglu treaty that "this treaty will respect the current obligations of both countries."

On June 19, 1941, the Turkish ambassador to Moscow, Aktai, asked for an appointment with Molotov and stated that, although radio makes all the news very quickly these days, he personally has the honor to announce the signing of the German-

Turkish treaty. - I hope, Mr. Molotov, you will take into account that Turkey's position has been rather difficult lately - we are surrounded by fire from all sides ... But we want to maintain the current state of peace and tranquility in the country. - So you

will adhere to a policy of neutrality? — Yes... But Turkey remains an ally of England and will not take any action directed against England... Our relations with her, as before, remain very friendly and sincere...

Molotov nodded and said coldly:
"Understood..."

Seeing such a reaction, Aktai asked with some anxiety in his voice: - Can I consider

that our position produces good results?
impression on neighboring countries?

- You can ... I think your treaty will be received positively, because it provides you with peace ... The Soviet Union has no reason to worry ... Aktai bowed. But it was

clear from everything that the Turkish elite was ready for anything, provided that it was left aside. Although the factor of Turkey could become important in the future, especially with the rearmament of the Turkish army with modern weapons.

And on JUNE 21, 1941, at three o'clock in the afternoon, the Fuhrer, dressed in a white shirt and trousers made of the finest linen, sat in a deck chair and looked thoughtfully at the greenish waters of the Black Sea. Somewhere there, on the right hand, was the white-stone capital of the Russian fleet, Sevastopol. This morning, he saw her first from the air, and then only from the sea, when the leader of "Moskva" with him on board passed a long bay that goes deep into the coast, taking Hitler to the subtropical Crimea, to Foros, to the zone of bright, toy type of resort villages. Everything here was cheerful, dazzling white under the bright, peaceful summer sun.

Sitting next to Hitler was one of Stalin's deputies, Ivan Tevosyan, who knew German well. To the great pleasure of the Fuhrer, he told him about how he, the metallurgist Tevosyan, who received the nickname "Schwartz Ivan" during his internship with Krupp for his dark hair, was persuaded to stay at the Krupp factories and even wooed a luxurious blonde.

Tevosyan accompanied Hitler, whom Stalin persuaded to look at the Crimea, the Vorontsov Palace and Sevastopol at least out of the corner of his eye. Before that, the German chancellor saw Leningrad in the charm of the white night, the Hermitage, the Neva, Peterhof, and could not deny himself one more pleasure ... And he was interested in Sevastopol. Time, however, was running out, and Hitler decided to fly to the Crimea by plane.

Despite his habit of flying over Germany, flying through Russia stunned him. It turned out to be an event in itself and did not at all resemble a German, European flight over the patchwork of fields and anthills of peaked towns.

On this, already the third, visit to Russia, the Fuhrer was seized by a feeling of a final, decisive turn in his fate. For a long time he habitually did not separate himself from the fate of Germany. This means that this was the final turn for Germany as well. The pact with the Russians, signed two years ago in Moscow by Ribbentrop, has already changed a lot, especially since in the Third Reich, by inheritance from the Second Reich, Wilhelm the First, there are many supporters of Bismarck's concept: do not fight with Russia, and even more so - do not fight for two front. Therefore, not everyone perceived the Pact as a tactical move. There were those who would like to consolidate it. He hesitated all this time ... His whole being opposed sincere and long friendship with communist Russia. But the more he got to know these Russians in their own country, the more he realized that there was no smell of subhumans here.

But Russians differed greatly from the standard European. There, in Europe, everywhere - from the Viennese cafe to the salon of Madame Erna Hafstaengl or the halls of the Munich conference - the theatrical behavior of others seemed not only normal, but also the only possible course of action for anyone who occupies any prominent public position. Not only theater and film stars played, not only secular beauties and absolutely dazzling beauties of the demimonde. Financiers and politicians played, Mussolini played, Daladier and Chamberlain played ... Fat Herman and even taciturn Bormann played. Accordingly, the Fuhrer himself played. And in Russia, he

watched the generals, the ministers

- who were called here "people's commissars", for the major engineers, and they were all deprived of any posture. Everyone was what they were... The communication of the lower with the higher was reminiscent of the best Prussian examples, but in this very clarity there was not a desire to please, but an awareness of the importance of the work being performed... These people did not try to portray false enthusiasm. They were polite but reserved. But in them - even in security officers - there were

one can see a sincere desire to understand: who came to them now and travels around the country? An enemy who pretended to be a friend, or **a former** enemy who decided to become, if not a friend, then a partner?

And more and more often, the Fuhrer's internal reactions began to surprise him. They became more and more simple and human. Perhaps the thought of Eve also helped. And he found himself at the mercy of emotional impressions - so important for him in his subsequent rationalistic actions. The simplicity and cordiality of the Russians had a beneficial effect, and these streams of natural simplicity that surrounded him here eroded the wariness of his entire previous life. Instead, the understanding of the irreversibility of the turn came.

The main impression and result was a conversation with Stalin. They talked about business only once, but this time was enough for everything ... And now the Fuhrer did not regret that he had agreed to come to Moscow again. From the Russian side, the

same imposing general Ignatiev, a former count, a tsarist military diplomat, and now a senior officer of the Red Army, translated... In the cozy hall at the Kuntsevo dacha, besides Stalin, Hitler and translators, only Molotov and Ribbentrop were sitting. "Mr. Hitler," Stalin said, "Vyacheslav Molotov in Berlin evaded a direct answer to your direct question about whether we would go to war with England next year ... But I will immediately answer you: "Yes!" Hitler was ready for such an answer, but he clearly shuddered. And Stalin continued: - Lenin once said that we would not touch the American

capitalists, as long as they did not touch us ... But in America they simply did not notice us

for a long time. And I do not rule out that the North American States decided on our recognition in 1933 in the expectation that over time we will become their, as you say, anti-German sword in Europe in addition to their already traditional British sword ... Fuhrer.

“So, as you can see, nothing came of the USA from this ... And now they are hastily arming themselves. During the year, the output of military products in America grew almost nine times. And it is growing... They pay great attention to aviation and navy. In the USA, there are now more than 70 aircraft assembly plants alone ... And most of the world's oil production falls on the Anglo-American countries. America is rich and powerful. And now she is strong in the air and at sea ... Only two voices sounded in the silence of a country

house - a deaf Stalinist and a well-placed baritone of Ignatiev's singing class. The rest listened tensely and with interest, catching every word. “Roosevelt claims,” Stalin said, “that all American military preparations are directed exclusively against the Axis countries,

against Adolf Hitler. At the same time, as if in brackets, it is implied that the West does not include Russia in this circle. This is a bait for us ... But we understand that, having defeated Germany ... - Here Hitler moved displeasedly, and Stalin reassured him: - I take this only as an assumption ... So, after that, the Anglo-Saxons will definitely hit us ... Even if we turned out to be their allies - I also say this only as an assumption - as soon as we helped them defeat you, they would immediately begin the struggle to destroy us. I'll tell you straight: they don't like you, Herr Hitler, but they hate us. And for a very long time ... Stalin fell silent, looked around at everyone and finished: - That is why we are with you now and will be with you to the end. That is, until victory, first in Europe, and then on a scale

planets...

After a long pause, the Fuhrer himself began: - Herr Stalin, Herr Molotov! I am stunned by your frankness and glad of your determination. And your promise to openly support us in the forty-second year inspires me. But, obviously, you have specific ideas and proposals based on the fundamental basis that Herr Stalin outlined, don't you?

“Yes,” Stalin agreed. - And this is how we see it all ... England is strong at sea. America is the same. America already has 15 battleships, 7 aircraft carriers, 18 heavy cruisers, 19 light

cruisers, 168 destroyers and more than a hundred submarines, not counting hundreds of auxiliary vessels ... Armada ... But ...

Hitler tossed his head, and Stalin smiled: - But

this ever-growing armada is forced to consider the entire planet as an operational zone, and not just the spheres of activity of the Axis countries ... The Yankees are already robbing the whole world, and nowhere in the world they are loved - except for England, which also plunders the whole world and who is also not loved anywhere. And this is in the general balance of power - plus for us ... But this is a plus only if we act before the whole world not as its new masters, but as senior allies in the struggle against the Anglo-Saxons and the world, as you say, plutocracy ...

Hitler listened thoughtfully.

America knows how to work. But the Yankees are internally weak even at home, because their wealth is not only of labor origin, but also of predatory ... And if we gradually narrow their base of external exploitation of raw materials, the Yankees will get a number of internal problems ... Especially since there are a lot of Germans and Italians in America ... But all this is not a matter of today, but of tomorrow. Today's problem is England... We are not yet mobilized and are not ready for an offensive war. We do not want it, but sooner or later the Anglo-Saxons themselves force us to oppose the Anglo-Saxons. So here Russia and Germany are natural allies. But you are already mobilized... It is not without our help that you have already achieved certain successes in Africa, and now you can generally achieve a decisive turning point and victory, but not so far in the matter of invasion, but in the matter of decisively weakening England in her vulnerable places - in the East. The Fuhrer silently nodded in agreement, and again Stalin's muffled calm voice was heard: - The English

fleet in the Mediterranean is strong, the German one is weak, and the Italians alone cannot beat the British at

sea ... But with your air support, it is possible. And this is especially real if you, - here Stalin looked the Fuhrer in the eyes, - occupy Malta and Gibraltar ... - The Caudillo is afraid ... - the Fuhrer began. - Yes, I understand ... But now he must see that the situation is changing dramatically. That is why I so asked you to come to Moscow

again ... After all, now in all the capitals of the world - both friendly and

neutral, and unfriendly, among politicians, military men, financiers and industrialists, a real commotion arose! You and I, Herr Hitler, have already excited them in recent months. But after these conversations of ours, if we take appropriate decisions and announce some of them, if your tank divisions are deployed on the territory of the USSR by agreement, Franco may have a different view of things ... And if you saddle Gibraltar and Malta tomorrow, then Suez you will ride the day after tomorrow. And with it, the oil fields of the entire Middle East... Neither the British nor the Americans will destroy them... After all," Stalin chuckled contemptuously, "their sacred private property... And then the oil balance will improve significantly in your favor. At the same time, with Iraq and Iran, you and we are pursuing a policy on a common platform, and we will also help the Vichy French in Lebanon and Syria with weapons and materials - already now. Possibly through Turkey. After all, we have diplomatic relations with the government in Vichy, and the Turks have a formal agreement with France in 1939, which today can be viewed in different ways ... Hitler was silent and thought. I thought and was silent. Stalin painted a picture, on the one hand, almost

fantastic, but on the
other ... And on

the other, the idea was something like this. Another thing is that during its execution there were growing complications that called into question the whole plan. But now, with the allied Russia, it can be realized! The Reich really has huge forces - until ... Until the Yankees armed themselves. And these forces are not wasted, because "Barbarossa" - albeit for other reasons - suffered the fate of the "Sea Lion". Although ... Although now the "Sea Lion", the desired landing on the Island, may

become a reality in the near future. Stalin is right, this can be done the next year, and in 1941 other problems can be solved during the operation ... What should I call it? Well, let's say ... Let's say - "Atlantis" ... Yes! From the depths of centuries and legends, something new and grandiose will enter the reality of the century, and we will raise it from the bottom of the ocean with our submarines, plunging the power of Britain into the ocean depths in return.

This is what the Fuhrer thought, and

Stalin said: - You need to do this by the end of summer, and in any case - until late autumn ... England and undermine the USA... - Japan? But she does not dare to take serious actions ... - the Fuhrer objected. - Well, we must convince her together ... But I hope that you will help us to put pressure on Japan also on the issue of returning

Northern Sakhalin and selling the northern part of the Kuriles ... with Turkey? - What will be in

our common interests ... That is, so far we don't need to frighten her, and there she will be with us insofar as we will grow stronger, and England will weaken ... Do you already know that we invited Mr. Mussolini

to Sevastopol? - Yes, the Duce told me, and then Mr. Dekanozov confirmed it to Ribbentrop. -

Do you know how Mr. Mussolini wants to come to us? - I know ... On the Littorio, although this is still a big secret. - Yes ... But when he goes to sea, the ambassadors of the USSR and Italy will turn to Saracoglu with an urgent request for the passage of the Straits ... I am sure

that the Turks will not refuse our general **request**. And it will only

start...

Hitler was clearly pleased and did not hide it: - Herr

Stalin! I think that everything I heard is reasonable... Upon my return, we will calculate everything, because we are talking about a grandiose multi-way combination... And the best answer will be our actions on the southern coast of the Mediterranean Sea... I will not hide that your proposal for the guaranteed deployment of our two tank divisions is very interesting, and we will probably use it after we expand the security zone to the hundred kilometers you propose ... Stalin spread his hands, confirming his agreement. thought and

offered: - We

can even partially take them on our official kosht - while we have them, presumably until the summer of next year.

— We won't refuse either...

— And one more thing... This has already been discussed... We are ready to sharply increase grain supplies to you this year. - It

would be very helpful - in Belgium and France we are pestered by strikes, the reason for which is solely the lack of food. Of course, often these strikes are organized with the money of the British, but the starting point is the supply ... - I know about this, Herr Hitler ... And I just wanted to touch on

a similar topic... There is one more thing that needs to be settled... - What do you mean? - The Comintern still exists... The Fuhrer could not resist the temptation to clarify: - For now? - Yes, for now ... We are not

engaged in the export of the revolution. But we are influential in the left circles of the world, and along the line of the Comintern we have done everything to ensure that in the countries occupied by you during the war and in Germany, the Communists do not engage in sabotage. - In Germany, we feel it ... - However, our possibilities, Mr. Hitler, are not unlimited.

There are circles that are not easy for us to contain now ... I think we need to look at things here honestly and without offense - in the common interest. And, I think, it is not worth irritating the peoples, Mr. Hitler, with excessive harshness ... Let's leave it for those who plunge peoples into wars. The Fuhrer listened to the Russian prime minister with an expression that was either sour or stone, but after listening, he began to think, pursing his lips.

Stalin touched on a sore spot... Issues of domestic policy and occupation policy are, in fact, the prerogative of the Reich. But Stalin can be understood. And everything that has been said before is serious ... The tank divisions of the future enemy are not allowed on their land. And he briefly said: - I'll think about it ... Stalin slowly stroked his mustache and also briefly said: - Good ... Let it be so for now. Almost everything was said ... And the business conversation was soon

finished. The hosts and guests moved into the dining room.

HITLER recalled all this, basking in the Crimean sun, and the next morning he and the Russian Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars went out on the Russian leader of the destroyers again to Sevastopol. Hitler rarely went to the sea, and even more so to the south at such a beautiful time. And he fully appreciated the restrained brightness of the Black Sea landscapes that sailed along the starboard side. The slopes of the mountains overgrown with dense forest gave way to high and steep banks. At Cape Feolent, a triangular cliff of dark green color was striking, sharply different from the nearest rocks with a reddish and gray color. The leader was moving at a

medium speed, and only when the commander of the Black Sea Fleet, Admiral Oktyabrsky, a short, strong man with a shaved head, invited the Fuhrer to the bridge, the speed increased sharply. But even the three escort destroyers did not lag behind. It became clear: the Russians were demonstrating the driving performance of their new ships.

The sailors sported snow-white uniforms with blue collar lapels adorned with three white stripes. The officers are also in all white, with daggers and white gloves. Even if tall sailors were selected specifically for this demonstration campaign, the Russian fleet had something to be proud of. Confident, tanned to black, athletically built, with teeth that gave the impression of being given out in addition to the form, the Russian guys did not resemble the youth of the Hitler Youth. There was no refinement in them, but an unshakable vitality was felt. The expressive faces of the German youths were relaxed, while the large faces of the Russians expressed strength and dignity.

Hitler caught himself thinking: "Yes ... It's good that my wolf cubs will not fight these bears ... It could end badly for both of them ..." And another thought immediately came: "I wonder how they will look not in confrontation but in addition to each other? Sevastopol arose in the distance... In these places, England, France

and Sardinia once gained victory, but did not find much glory. Glory went to the Russians. The bay opened wide. But, approaching, it narrowed, and it seemed to Hitler that

this was the way to Russia. Login is easy

getting out is not easy. And there is a lot of glory along this path, but all of it belongs to the

Russians. Tevosyan, who was standing nearby on the bridge, thoughtfully, as if to

himself, said: "Our Anosov believed that a steel cannon could save Sevastopol. But in Nicholas Russia, under Nesselrod and Kankrin, they did not listen to him ... But your Krupp took into account the lessons of the Crimean War. "Yes," agreed Hitler.

And thanks to the steel cannon Krupp, we defeated the French at Sedan.

The hint was transparent: the French beat you here, and we beat French. Tevosyan did not object and even confirmed: - Unlike us near Sevastopol. Then he added: "But the tsarist government

had to buy guns from Krupp." — Is that how? the Fuhrer was surprised. - This is an

interesting detail ... But you say, Herr Tevosyan, Nesselrode, Kankrin ... Is that the Germans? — The Germans... Nesselrode, however, is half a Jew... — Don't

you think it's a little strange that yours, — Hitler singled out 'your', — the Germans harmed Russia, and our Krupp helped her? Tevosyan smiled: - Yes, Mr. Chancellor, the Russian Germans were not always useful to Russia. There

was the great

Catherine, there was also the insignificant Nesselrode... I thought about this a lot and I know one thing for sure: the historical destinies of Germany and Russia have been intertwined for a long time. The question is how to tie and untie these knots. And, after a pause, he added: "And then we learned how to make good steel cannons ourselves." Yes, and armor too!

By evening, the Fuhrer and his retinue were already on the train ... Time was not felt - and not only because it is felt weaker on the road. He did not want to recognize, count, measure. And only out of inertia, Hitler languidly asked Schulenburg, who accompanied him to Berlin:

- And what is our date tomorrow?

"June 23rd," the ambassador replied, a little surprised. - How quickly time flies ... June forty-one is almost over. I can't believe that tomorrow you, my Fuhrer, will be back at the Berghof.

A month has passed ... And Admiral Oktyabrsky went out on the same leader "Moscow" to meet the "Littorio" with the Duce on board. The Turks were not happy about the joint request of Moscow and Rome for its passage, but they could not forbid anything either: after all, the mighty Italian battleship in the Black Sea waters is a problem for the Russians, and if they themselves invite the Italians, then let them take over

responsibility.

"Moscow" held the flag of the Commander of the Navy of the USSR, because Stalin ordered Kuznetsov, People's Commissar of the Navy, to meet the Duce at sea. Under a blue sky painted with snow-white clouds in the colors of the old Russian maritime flag, Kuznetsov and Oktyabrsky saluted the guests and boarded the Littorio, where Oktyabrsky himself took over the functions of a pilot. Kuznetsov insured him, because he knew the approaches to the Sevastopol Bay since the time of the command of the "Red Caucasus" and "Chervona Ukraine". Soon bays began to approach them, a flat cut of distant mountains on the left and thin columns of

ancient ruins on the right. Mussolini stood under the wind on the deck, next to him were Ciano, the Chief of the Naval General Staff, Admiral Cavagnari, and the thought flew there, to the city known in Italy for a long time - from the time of that Crimean War, when Count Cavour, in the hope of support in the fight against Austria, tied Sardinia in the Anglo-French war against the Russians.

Yes, once there were already Italians here, the cock feathers of the Bersaliers fluttered over the hills of Sevastopol, and an Italian cemetery remained on this land.

The battleship entered the bay, and mooring operations began on the barrel. The guests began to look around ... Here are the flights of white stairs running down to the sea and above it - a double colonnade of the Doric order. And further, right in the water, there is an unusual-looking monument, and a shaved Russian admiral explains that this is the Monument to the Scuttled Ships. But why flooded? Monuments are erected to the winners, announcing their own and other people's shores with the roar of victorious salutes! The Duce can't stand it and tells the admiral about it. And he suddenly smiles slyly and answers: - In Sevastopol, Mr. Mussolini, there is another monument beloved by Russian sailors - to Lieutenant Commander Kazarsky, commander of the Mercury

brig. This brig fought off a superior enemy, and then fled. On the monument it is written: "To posterity as an example." Oktyabrsky thought for a moment, and then said with conviction: "Sometimes it's more important not to win, but not to surrender!" And his inexpressive high-cheeked face in an instant became

sculptural.

* * *

SEVASTOPOL was wonderful! And on this sunny - as if by order - day in the midst of summer, the city reminded of Italy. However, the Russian Black Sea Fleet was small. Everything was in flags, the ships were beautiful - warships are always beautiful, because they are extremely rational, but this was, of course, not an Italian raid in Taranto. The battleship "Paris Commune", the cruisers "Red Crimea", "Red Caucasus", "Chervona Ukraine", "Voroshilov", the leaders

"Kharkov" and "Tashkent", a dozen destroyers, submarines, torpedo boats, minesweepers ...

Kuznetsov noticed the glances of the guests and considered it necessary to remark:

- Yes, the fleet is small ... But, firstly, it is not the only one in our country - there are enough maritime theaters. Secondly, we didn't get a rich inheritance from the tsar - Nikolai drowned all the best in Tsushima, and then the devil pulled him and fought with Germany ... Then the White Guards took something with them ... - The People's Commissar smiled: - But nothing - we are building little by little. There is - where, there is and for what ...

He fell silent, but immediately

added: - And even now we are not bad with boats and aircraft.

Kuznetsov told the truth - for a hundred and a half Italian submarines, our Black Sea Fleet alone had 47 of them with 84 torpedo boats and aviation in 625 aircraft, of which half were fighters. And on the shore of the Duce, Stalin, Molotov, Zhdanov were

already waiting in the sea

white uniforms and a sea of light dresses from tanned Sevastopol women...

Orchestras, flowers, smiles...

Any city is good on a festive summer day, but how good on a holiday the city of Russian glory Sevastopol!

And how beautiful he is on the main day of the fleet! And especially when he for the first time in his life meets the head of a foreign state!

Stalin knew what he was doing when he suggested that Andrea Mussolini, Benito Amilcar, commander of the fascist militia and Duce of the Italian people, make a personal acquaintance here - in sunny, festive and peaceful Sevastopol.

The admiral's boat with the Duce, Ciano, Cavagnari and Kuznetsov left the Littorio and five minutes later approached the wide steps of the Gafskaya Wharf. Now the pole sailor grabbed the edge of the pier with a pole, and the Duce stepped forward ...

Before him was Stalin. He

was in a simple linen, also snow-white - like everyone else here, a suit. And he held out his hand to the Duce with the words: - Hello, Mr.

Mussolini! I am glad to welcome you to land of the Soviet Union...

Chapter 13

Shortly after the end of all the visits, Molotov himself began a conversation on a topic that clearly occupied not only him, but also Stalin: - Koba ... Isn't it time to start a conversation with the Germans about transferring Telman to us? On the terms, say, of your personal assurance that he will receive a purely internal position with us, for example, in the Republic of the Volga Germans? And one more thing - about the weakening of the regime for

keeping political prisoners in Germany ... Stalin looked at Molotov ... Is he gently reproaching the leader for departing from ideals? Oh, Vyacha, Vyacha! Oh Molotstein! Yes, Vyacha, you are an old Party member... Yes, revolution is a fun, young thing. And its impulses are still not extinguished ... But now we are no longer making a revolution! We have done it and are busy with the archi-, as Ilyich used to say, complex matter of practical restructuring of the world. And here, as Ilyich once again used to say, we do not need hysterical

impulses ... We need the measured tread of the iron battalions of the proletariat. Stalin suddenly remembered how in July 1934 he received the Englishman Wells, the very same science fiction writer who wrote in the twentieth year, after conversations with Lenin, "Russia in the Dark" ... In the twentieth year, Wells called Ilyich a "Kremlin dreamer", and after a year and a half for ten years he came to admire the new Russia, illuminated no longer by Lenin's dream, but by Stalin's power plants. Wells a

- You, Mr. Stalin, know better than anyone else what a revolution is ... And, moreover, in practice ... Do the masses ever revolt themselves? Do you not consider it an established truth that all revolutions are made by a minority? And

Stalin answered then: -

Yes, a leading revolutionary minority is required for the revolution ... But the most talented, devoted and energetic

the minority will be helpless if it does not rely on at least the passive support of millions of people. - Passive? Wells was

surprised, there was no such answer.

waiting. Maybe subconscious?

"Partly and semi-instinctively," Stalin agreed. - But without the support of millions, the best minority is powerless ...



He remembered this already long-standing conversation and said to Molotov: - You see, Vyacha ... We were able to convince Russia under you-know-what conditions. And no one helped us ... And Telman could not convince the Germans with our considerable help. Dimitrov did not convince the Bulgarians, Tito - the Serbs, Passionaria - the Spaniards ... Everywhere there was an active minority, but the passive majority did not

support it ... Stalin sighed heavily: - People are afraid of the new ... And communism is new, and even very active new ... This new is impossible without much knowledge. It was not for nothing that Ilyich said that one can become a communist only by enriching one's memory with the knowledge of all the riches that mankind has accumulated. And this is a great work of the soul ... And how can people whose generations were brought up by capital have a big soul? So, Vyacha, the main thing for us is to take care of what we already have... The main thing is peace... The main thing is that our 41st year will be peaceful. This is the main thing...

Stalin fell silent, looked at Molotov and continued: "And we will help Telman and the German communists best of all by keeping Hitler in his anti-communism and not bringing the matter to war ... Hitler, it seems, is an ideological person, but an ideological one can be persuaded. You can't convince this bourgeois, because what kind of ideas does he have? Instead of ideas, he has a checkbook... Molotov did not answer, but Stalin tried to

convince him: - We have already laid a solid material foundation for developed socialism. We have already created generations of new builders of developed socialism... But we still do not have a reliable defense of the already close developed socialism. For this we need a year. And Hitler

This year gives us... And even - not a year! In general, we can get away from the conflict with the Germans. And already in 1942 we will build up our army and aviation to such an extent that together with them we can defeat the British Empire in its mother country ...

Molotov shook his head: - And we will be left alone with them ... And even Mussolini in addition! And Europe under Hitler...

- Hey, Vyacha! Hitler is not a fool - he needs the destruction of the British Empire, and not the destruction and humiliation of England as a great nation-state. And he needs Europe as a partner, not as a slave. You can't build a new Europe on a bayonet! I think he understands this ... Especially now, when we support him with raw materials and bread. He himself told you last November that it is better to get what you want without a war - war is not economically profitable ... - It is profitable for the capitalists ... - Molotov remarked. - This goes without saying ... But the Reich is so strong economically that beat whoever you want in a peaceful competition. If it's honest... - Well, we'll see about that! - Certainly!

In five years we will also be - wow! And we don't need war either. But the defeat of the British Empire is needed! The defeat of colonial Britain today is the defeat of America tomorrow. And the defeat of America is a decisive blow to the strength of imperialism. Alone we will not break this force. And Hitler alone will not smash... And the Japanese alone will not smash... But together we can! And, as long as the bottom line is yes, we will build a developed socialism here in Russia ... And then no one will want to fight with us. And he can't! Yes, and it will be useless - it will be possible to do without a fight ... Molotov was silent, and

Stalin kept convincing: - And if we miss the moment and give America time to arm itself while we are fighting here in Europe, then our deeds are bad ... You see - Hitler looks into the year 2000 and warns: the main future danger to the world is America! And he's right! He made me look there too... I looked there and immediately invited him back to Moscow to negotiate... No, we should not be at enmity with him, but live in peace... Stalin smiled:

- Wait a minute! We will also seriously bring Tevosyan and Goering together! Let also agree - there are many peaceful affairs! And Telman rescued!

* * *

MOLOTOV then said nothing. He alternately gained confidence, then again doubted, when the "pearl of the night" Pearl carefully tried to convince him. And the world already understood that the Russian Bolsheviks are a force in earnest. The supranational Golden Elite wanted to destroy them, but there were other Americans who admired Russia. Knowing how to work themselves, they could evaluate without envy the results of the work of others. On April 27, 1941, the American envoy to Iran, Dreyfus, gave a dinner party at

the embassy. Dreyfus gathered a peculiar and motley society ... There were Minister of Justice Ahi, two high-ranking officials from the Iranian Foreign Ministry and one retired Iranian ambassador, the daughter of the Swedish envoy Heidenstam, adviser to the Egyptian embassy Hosni Omar, our plenipotentiary Filimonov with his wife and the American businessman Penchis.

Loquacious, but by no means rustic Penchis himself started with plenipotentiary an interesting conversation:

- Oh, Mr. Filimonov! I have been to Moscow several times... I supplied equipment to the Stalin plant, met with Messrs. Kaganovich and Khrushchev... You know how to work and know how to look ahead! There was no point in denying this to Filimonov, and he nodded his

head. Penchis continued: - We then looked at your five-year plans as an unreasonable undertaking ...

You paid - we came to you and advised you, helped build large factories, but we ourselves laughed at you! Even in Russia we lived luxuriously, and you sometimes lived in dugouts, did not have decent rest and food and were engaged in menial work ...

Filimonov knew all this not from stories, but he listened to Penchis with understandable interest. And he, shaking his head, confessed:

- We laughed, and you were engaged in the construction of factories, factories, agitated for collective farms and machine and tractor stations ... You

they revived domestic industry, agriculture, transport ... Finally, they simply re-educated people ... And at the same time they put together a regular Red Army ... Not for the first time, Penchis sipped a

glass of whiskey, chewed his lip and said: - Yes, we did not appreciate that you acted

completely Right! And this is our main mistake... We lived a luxurious life at home, raised science and technology to a very high level, but did very little to use their achievements to ensure the security of the American continent... And the threat of invasion by enemy troops hangs over us...

A Yankee wouldn't be a Yankee if he didn't see a speck in someone else's eye without noticing the beam in his own. Hitler racked his brains over how he could end the war in Europe. But the "tops" in the homeland of Penchis - the same Roosevelt - created the prerequisites for the second American invasion of the European continent.

However, Penchis said amusing things: "We

have first-class aircraft and weapons, but we don't have enough of them ... We only now understood the meaning of Mr. Stalin's call to catch up and overtake America, because a backward country cannot defend its independence ... And now Roosevelt issued a directive to Americans abroad thought more about US security and less about commerce. He ordered to reduce exports to a minimum and buy raw materials everywhere to protect America... And now I no longer advertise here in Iran, rails... Although the Iranians are knocking around the thresholds of my office, Mr. Filimonov!

YES, AMERICA was preparing to fight. To fight without defending one's own national territory—for the time being, there was no question of attacking it, but by invading foreign lands no longer by the force of the dollar, but by the force of arms. At the end of the 18th century, the troubles of the revolutionary era temporarily brought to the United States Charles-Maurice Talleyrand, a fundamentally vicious man, but very intelligent. Over the ocean Talleyrand

got in the unenviable capacity of an emigrant, and from there he was in one of
wrote in his personal letters:

“Europe should look at America with open eyes and not give any pretext for accusations or repressions. America is getting stronger every day. It will become a great force, and the moment will come when, in the face of Europe, with which communication will become easier as a result of new discoveries, it will want to have a say in our affairs and lay its hand on them. Political caution would then require scrupulous observation by the governments of the old continent that no pretext should be presented for such interference. The day America comes to Europe, peace and security will be banished from it for a long time.”

At that time, the United States occupied only a small part of its final territory, had neither a decent industry, nor a more or less significant army, or something worthwhile fleet ... And here - Talleyrand calculated everything correctly! Perhaps he was able to show such insight because he not only knew how to observe, but also knew how to win over. And, perhaps, his American acquaintances - the same Alexander Hamilton, could not resist boasting to the charming Frenchman: here, they say, the hour will come, and your Old World will serve our New World!

But even Talleyrand did not imagine that a number of governments of the old continent would **deliberately** create pretexts so that the Yankees could lay their hand on Europe - as did the governments of Poland, England and his homeland France. For the first time, the times predicted by the cunning fox from diplomacy came to Europe in 1917, when the Yankees came to it in order to end on their own terms that First World War, which was in the interests of the Yankees and conceived. Now, with the beginning of the forties, such times could come a second time. And the agents of the Golden Elite on both sides of the Atlantic brought these times closer and **closer** — disbanding battle banners, doubling their ranks, preparing spiritual weapons...

In 1941, Charlie Chaplin's first sound film, *The Dictator*, was released on screens in America and England. Chaplin played two roles in it - the Dictator and the hairdresser, whom everyone in uniform takes for the Dictator ... Hitler - the hint at him was obvious - Chaplin presented an idiot and a maniac, selflessly playing with a huge inflatable rubber globe. But the real maniacs, obsessed with the mania of world domination, were just those who financed Chaplin's pamphlet. And he could have found more suitable objects for denunciation in America itself. In the thirties, a Black Muslim became known in New York -

Malcolm X, the ideologist of Negro racism as a reaction to white racism. Malcolm X stated:

"We didn't land on Plymouth Rock... It's Plymouth Rock and blue-eyed devils demanded us to them ...

But to make a film about the Ku Klux Klan "blue-eyed devils" Chaplin had no idea.

In "*Baghdad-on-the-Subway*", as the great humanist O'Henry called New York, the Jew Arnold Rothstein was also known. It was he who at the beginning of the 20th century became the first gangster in the modern sense of the word and founded the institute of organized crime. Even before the Cosa Nostra, a purely Jewish "Killing Concern" - "Kosher Nostra" operated in the United States. However, in Hollywood he was not denounced. But they filmed gangster action films, glorifying the heirs of the clever "Arnie" Rothstein. Rothstein

and the Rothschilds were two sides of the same gold medal. But from either side, the All-Seeing Eye, framed by the Masonic triangle, looked at both Russia and Germany with a hating look. After all, Russians and Germans built national power with their own labor, and not with gangster methods of supranational expansion. And only Russians and Germans - united - could stop this anti-social expansion

end.

That's why the Golden Elite hated them.

The headquarters of the Jewish Economic Federation (EEF) headed by Samuel Untermyer and Rabbi Stephen Wiese have long settled in New York. In 1933 she organized the economic boycott of the Reich. Still, the Germans opposed that

to continue to be robbed by international financiers and their brethren in Germany. And in London in the 33rd year, Jewish emigrants from Germany, with the support of their longtime patron Lord Balfour, created the Focus Anti-Nazi Council, headed by the leader of the English trade unions, Sitrin. Focus successfully complemented the efforts of the World Jewish Congress of Chaim Weizmann, a native of the town of Motol, Kobrin district, Grodno region in Tsarist Russia. The headquarters of the Congress - this European analogue of the EEF - was also located in London. In the same

1933, a fifty-three-year-old native of Odessa, who had long moved to the New World, Zeev Jabotinsky put forward a plan for the resettlement of one and a half million Jews from Eastern Europe to Elohim-Israel. However, the plan was rejected by Jewish organizations on both sides of the ocean, although Zhabotinsky only developed the ideas of those who at one time ensured the departure of millions of Russian Jews to USA Israel, including Zhabotinsky himself ... Yes, back in 1891 in London The

Jewish Colonization Association was formed. Its council was in Paris, and the Central Committee, headed by Baron Horace Ginzburg and railway magnate Yakov Polyakov, was in St. Petersburg. And the task of the association was determined to promote the "allowances and instructions" for the resettlement of Jews from Russia. Now other "instructions"

were coming in, and Zeev Jabotinsky, with his *untimely* thoughts, died unexpectedly in "Baghdad on the subway", before he reached the age of sixty. But in 1941, an English diplomat, a native of Riga, Sir Isaiah Berlin arrived in Washington from London - a master, philosopher, political scientist, an Oxford graduate and a convinced Zionist, who is at the age of Christ. A descendant of the Hasidic rabbi Tsemakh-Zedek, the grandson of Schneer-Zalman, also a rabbi, the founder of the Lubavitcher Hasidic dynasty, he now pushed the Yankees "to save civilization that is dying in Europe" ... Churchill himself read reports on his activities, and Berlin himself listened to the ideas of his fellow tribesman, a native of St. Petersburg, 56-year-old economist Vladimir Savelyevich Voitinsky. This former Menshevik settled in Germany in 1921, left for Switzerland in 1934, and went to the USA in 1935 to help Jewish advisers.

Roosevelt. Voitinsky developed the ideas of world government, thinking about his magnum opus Trade and State Organization of the World. And Louis Blaustein, former Russian Jew and president of the American Refinery and Distribution Branches, funded these ideas by building the world's largest oil refinery in Texas City.

However, the Jewish stratum in the Anglo-Saxon elite was not limited, of course, to immigrants from Russia, including a wide range of figures from the Viceroy of India Reading to Sir James Rothschild on this, old-world, side of the Atlantic and the US economic dictator during the First World War, Bernard Baruch - according to that. And the Britons Churchill and Attlee, Emery and Lloyd George, the Yankees Roosevelts, the Morgans, the Dulles revolved in the same supranational orbit ... The same Morgan, by the way, first appeared in the United States as a financial agent of the Rothschilds.

And many others - of different nationalities and in different countries - rotated on these cunning "orbits".

Now, in the circle of interests of the Golden Elite, it was necessary to drag as many ordinary people as possible around the world, including in the United States. After all, a new Great War was being prepared, in which it was not the Golden Elite that was to fight, but the Gray Mass ... But the Mass sometimes bucked, and on June 9, 1941, President Roosevelt sent regular troops to suppress the strike at an aircraft factory in California. His uncle, President Theodore Roosevelt, had rich experience in this regard, but times were changing: if Theodore could "feed" the strikers with machine-gun bursts, then his nephew had to use weapons only as a means of psychological pressure. It became dangerous to shoot people, especially after the Russian October 1917 and the Great World Crisis of the early thirties.

And in SOVIET Russia, in February 1941, Stalin instructed the chairman of the State Planning Commission, Voznesensky, to begin drawing up the General Economic Plan of the USSR for 15 years. The task was set to outstrip the main capitalist countries in per capita production

population of iron, steel, fuel, electricity, machinery and other means of production and consumption. All of

this was real. For the first twelve years since the beginning of the first five-year plan, Russia has been gaining momentum. Now it was rolling along the rails of progress faster and faster, and it was still far from the top speed. In 1937, the United States produced 1160 kilowatt-hours of electricity per capita, Germany - 735, England - 608, France - 490, and Japan

- 421. The USSR then produced 215 kilowatt-hours. But already in 1940 we produced 255 kilowatt-hours per capita, and by the end of 1942 this figure was to rise to 416 kilowatt-hours. With steel,

things were like this: the Yankees produced it 397 kilograms per capita, the Germans - 291, the British - 279, the French - 188, the Japanese - 62. By 1940 we reached the mark of 94 kilograms, but in 1942 we had to have 156 steel kilograms. And every year new power plants, blast furnaces, open-hearth furnaces were put into operation... We took the first place in the world in the production of electric steel.

And in terms of total production by 1943, the new Russia came out on top in Europe in all major indicators, except for the production of coal and cars, and in second or third place in the world. Ahead so far were only America and the Reich. The first five-year

plan began in 1929 and was completed in 4 years - in 1932. To be honest, it was far from being fulfilled in everything, but an outstanding impulse was given to the country, and above all, a psychological impulse! So, when Stalin announced the early implementation of plans, it was the case when boasting did not mean lying. And the encouraged country in 1933 began to implement the second five-year plan, completed in 1937. Now the third five-year plan, begun in 1938, was ending. Her last year was 1942, and from 1943 the fourth five-year plan began: the years 1943–1944–1945–1946–1947...

“Look, Vyacheslav,” Stalin said to Molotov in 1941, “in 1937 we produced 30 million tons of oil, and next year we will produce 54 million. Another year or two, and we can export five to ten million ...

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And so it was possible to say a lot ... While there was not enough meat - this was the most sensitive result of the kulak and Trotskyist provocations during the period of collectivization, when villages and villages, crazy from changes, overnight put half of the cows, pigs, sheep, goats under the knife ... But meat was added every year, because there was a solid collective farm and state farm base for a large commercial grain farm. In the first and second five-year plans, the new made its way in a stubborn and difficult struggle ...

The Third Five-Year Plan showed the advantages of socialism.
The fourth was to secure them.

The RUSSIAN summer of 1941 entered its last phase, the August phase, when Stalin summoned Tevosyan. At first, the conversation was about current and internal affairs ...

"Comrade Tevosyan," Stalin asked, "how are things going with us with the Decree of the Central Committee and the Council of People's

Commissars on backup factories?" - Almost ready, Comrade Stalin! We are carrying out design work in parallel, so we will soon begin construction of new factories for the production of aircraft, aircraft engines, tanks and tank diesel engines in the Urals, Siberia, Central Asia and Kazakhstan ... - Very good! Whoever we are

friends with, a reserve defense base must be well protected by our territory... Defense for us is the heart... And a person's heart is well protected. - I agree, Comrade Stalin ... Therefore, the papers are ready, and for

it won't work either.

Stalin reviewed the draft, ordered that the issue be finally considered at the next meeting of the Politburo, and Tevosyan was about to leave, but Stalin's voice stopped him:

- Ivan Fyodorovich! Why don't you invite Goering to join us for a hunt?

Tevosyan was sincerely surprised by this turn of the topic:

- Goering? For hunting? -

Yes!

"Where to, Comrade Stalin?" And for what?

- Why - and they themselves could guess: he is an avid hunter, the Germans have a chief forester ... He used to be with us, but - as a military observer, on maneuvers. And we will invite him to work, although with shooting, but peacefully ... Get to know each other better, shoot game, drink a hunting pile, and then talk about business

Can...

- I see ... And where? - I

think, Ivan Fyodorovich, the best thing is to go to Belaya Vezha. —

To Belaya Vezha?! -

Yes ... The place is the most suitable.

"But, Comrade Stalin, isn't it too early? It's not the season yet! I am not a hunter, but I know that so far they only hunt duck.

Stalin smiled: - I'm

not a hunter either, Comrade Tevosyan. But God bless her - willingly! But the political season is in full swing ... And in Belaya Vezha there are enough animals, and politically this place suits us well.



Stalin was, of course, right! His version was advantageous for both the hunter and the politician. Belovezhskaya Pushcha is a protected century-old forest with an area of one and a half thousand kilometers near Brest. In old Russia, it occupied part of the Pruzhany district of the Grodno province, and after the unsuccessful Soviet-Polish war, this zone, according to the Riga Treaty of 1921, went to Poland, entering the Bialystok Voivodeship.

Overgrown with centuries-old forests, the forest has long been considered a reserve - for the first time, as a reserved forest of the Polish king Jagiello and the Grand Duke of Lithuania Vitovt, it was mentioned in 1409 ... After the inclusion of Poland and Lithuania in Russia in 1799, it went to the fund of state lands, and in 1888 year - to the specific (that is, the palace) department. Russian emperors hunted here.

The German Kaiser Wilhelm II also visited the Pushcha with them... And the hunt always turned out to be the richest!

The bison became the pride of the forest - in the rest of Europe they were killed long ago. And the state status of Belaya Vezha made it possible not only to preserve the thinned herd, but also to constantly increase it. In 1803, a special law was even issued punishing large fines for hunting bison and catching them. And by the beginning of the First World War, there were already 737 of them - of different ages and genders. Once the reserve was divided into three dachas - Belovezhskaya, Svislochskaya and Gaynovskaya

ship grove. During the First World War, the latter was especially affected - the Germans almost brought it down, and the timber was taken to Germany. The bison were also killed almost all of them: in 1916 there were 200 of them, in 1917 - 68, and the last bull was killed in 1921. Only a few pairs managed to be taken to Germany.

The Poles gave up on Belaya Bezha and continued to finish it off, removing the status of the reserve. In 1939, the former reserve, together with the whole of Western Belarus, was returned to Russia and again became a reserve. The war years and the years of hard times did not benefit either pine forests or elks and red deer. But life in a dense forest is not so easy to destroy, and in Belaya Vezha there were both elk and deer ... There were bears and wolves, roe deer and wild boars. A fox and a badger ran along the forest paths, a lynx and a wolverine hid in the trees ... Mallards nested on swampy lakes, and wood grouse nested in the depths of pine forests. But not rich game, of course, attracted Stalin's Belaya Vezha as a place of important "political" hunting. It was politically advantageous, which Stalin explained to Tevosyan:

- Firstly, it is not far from Brest, so the symbolism is obvious ... Secondly, it is not far from the Germans, so it will be easier for Goering to get there ... And thirdly, it will be possible, as if inadvertently, to hint to Goering - they say, you see, Pushcha was ours, then it became Polish. And after the Russians and Germans began to be friends, she again became Russian. And now, they say, Herr Goering, let's hunt here together. So, they say, we should do everything else ... Tevosyan understood everything and on the same day sent an invitation to Goering,

where he wrote:

"I would be glad to see you in the protected forests of the famous Belaya Vezha, where, Mr. Goering, the Soviet government invites you. We could have a great hunt there and at the same time talk about things that I hope are of mutual interest to us. If you find it useful, we are ready to invite together with you those leading German industrialists whom you indicate to us ... "

A positive answer came quickly, and here once again the accuracy of Stalin's thought manifested itself. Goering treated his post as Chief Forester not as a sinecure, but as an important state and public duty. And in a matter of years, he became an active and influential defender of wildlife. He replenished the impoverished Schorfheid Forest and the Rominten Heath with animals and birds, imported elk from Sweden and bison from Canada, introduced strict hunting rules with fines for shooting over the quota, banned the use of wire snares and traps, the use of light during night hunting, hunting on horseback and in cars . So Stalin's choice of an old reserve as a place for a business meeting was absolutely win-win in Goering's case.

Goering arrived a little earlier than mid-August. Even if it was just the hunt, he still wouldn't resist the temptation. But it was clear that the Russians had some business ideas and proposals and would like to discuss them with the Plenipotentiary for the 4-year plan and with the "captains of industry" of the Reich. It was not worth the moment. In addition, Goering felt that it would not hurt him to get closer to Tevosyan - the Russians had not invited foreigners to such hunts before, and now they were clearly generous with the invitation for a reason. With Göring came a group of Fuhrers of the economy and major industrialists. Its

natural head, the seventy-year-old Baron Gustav Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach, came along with the elder

son - thirty-four-year-old Alfred. The imperial finance minister, Count Schwerin von Krogzik, and the famous imperial banker Hjalmar Schacht arrived - a little disgraced, but very influential. There were Mannesmann and Rudolf Wingel from Simmens, there were two of Goering's closest assistants in the Four-Year Plan Office (in fact, they led it) - Erich Neumann and the chairman of the General Board of Management, as well as the chairman of the supervisory board of the Hermann Goering concern Paul Kerner. Even Otto Steinbrink from the Vereinigte Stalwerke came. The latter was closely associated with Flick, a figure as paramount as he was trying not to come out of the shadows, for Flick was very successful in the sphere of the "shadow" economy. These were different people, but they were people who really knew the economy and were able to see the future. Old Krupp, seeing Tevosyan, exclaimed: "Oh, Herr Schwartz-Ivan! I apologize for this familiarity, but it is so nice to remember the past! Congratulations on such a brilliant career! I offered you a good career at my place, but you exceeded all my expectations! Thanks, Herr Krupp! I think that we will still work together and seriously

cooperate! In the meantime, I wish you neither fluff, as we say in Rus', nor a feather! — To hell with it, Herr Tevosyan, to hell with it!

The HUNTING was a success, and it couldn't be otherwise when three factors came together at once: the abundance of game, the skill of the most experienced rangers and the undoubted hunting passion and talent of the Reichsmarschall ... During the day of the hunt, three bears, eight deer, two dozen roe deer, wolves and many other smaller living creatures ... Goering's trophies were

a bear, two deer and a pair of roe deer. And the Chief Forester of the Reich looked quite happy. In his hunting office in Karin Hall, he will hang the head of a Russian bear! That would be a reason for jokes! .. However, he really was grateful to Tevosyan and Stalin (on this account, the Reichsmarschall did not

was mistaken) and was ready for reciprocal courtesy - within the framework, of course, of the possible and expedient. During

the hunt, they did not talk about business. Didn't remember the past... Only at the end of the hunt Goering could not resist and briefly threw:

- When I hunted here with the Poles, the trophies were not an example more

modestly... Tevosyan just silently shrugged his hands: they say, what can I say - Russians are not Poles from any point of view! Even before the hunt, Goering was shown a new bison herd of 16 heads. - Is this already yours? the guest asked briskly. - More - Polish - answered the chief huntsman. - In the twenty-ninth year, they brought a couple of bison. Now that's how much ... But is it a herd? Twenty-five years ago - that was a herd!

"Yes," Goering declared smugly, "I have a larger herd in Karinhall... And Tevosyan then

suggested to him: "What if, Mr.

Goering, we would buy a few from you and return them here—to their historical, so to speak, homeland?" ? Two or three pairs for a divorce, and future calves - in half? Goering was in an

excellent state of mind in anticipation of an outstanding hunt and generously became generous: - Herr Tevosyan! What

kind of sale can we talk about! I'll give you five pairs! - I catch the word! - Oh yeah!

But the calves,"

Goering squinted slyly, "in half! - Certainly!

CALVES, however, were a trifle ... Serious conversations began the next day. There were cozy armchairs in a small hall, next to them were small tables with narzan. In the back of the hall, a buffet was laid, and another table was full drinks.

When everyone settled into their chairs, Tevosyan began in German:

- Herr Reichsmarschall! Gershaften! We are all business people here, and therefore I would like to start right away with the main thing: on behalf of Comrade Stalin, Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR, I, in your person, invite Germany to a sharp expansion of economic cooperation in the near future ...

Everyone, not excluding Goering, immediately turned over in their chairs. The Germans expected, of course, to hear something important, but Tevosyan's statement cheered them up. Serious trade agreements were already concluded between the Reich and Russia, and Tevosyan suggested, it turns out, even bigger ones?! Tevosyan, having guessed the quite obvious thoughts of the listeners,

explained:

- We are cooperating well now, and although Germany spends a lot of energy on waging war, you help us, and we help you ... But, Gershaften, next year, 1942, the third five-year plan ends, and we are now drafting plans for the fourth. We have big peace plans... By fulfilling them, we will at the same time increase our ability to increase assistance to you... There was a stir in the chairs again - quite satisfied. "Next year," Tevosyan continued, "we have planned such an increase in oil production that by the

spring of 1942 we will be able to supply you with at least half a million tons of oil in addition!" I emphasize - additionally, gershaften! And perhaps - and

million.

A light surprised conversation ran through the hall, and "the captains industry" looked at each other.

"The harvesting campaign of this year is coming to an end soon, but it is already clear that we will collect not just a record for Russia, but an unprecedentedly high harvest ... And in the fall we will be able to supply up to a million tons of grain and legumes to the Reich ...

- ABOUT! Goering burst out. - It would be great! "But that's not all, Gershaften!"

They listened to Tevosyan, not even with bated

breath, but with their mouths open, especially since he spoke without an interpreter and the pace of information flow was continuous. And he continued to strike:

— We are setting very serious tasks for the fourth five-year plan, colleagues! We plan annual growth of gross output at the level

up to 20 percent, and for some indicators - significantly higher ... - Oh, - drawled the "captains" incredulously, and Krupp added: - That's a lot! "Yes, a lot," Stalin's

deputy agreed without embarrassment, "but it's real. For us... And, in particular, we must

execute a grandiose program of energy hydrotechnical construction ... We want to almost double the production of electricity per capita in five years!

The Germans stopped being surprised and simply silently listened to this stunning flow. And Tevosyan said:

— On the Dnieper, in addition to the Dneproges, we plan to create a Kakhovka hydroelectric complex with a hydroelectric power station and a reservoir... Only here we have to excavate twenty million cubic meters of soil and lay almost two million cubic meters of concrete... In addition, we will build the North Crimean Canal... All this will give us the opportunity to irrigate more than three million hectares of land in Kherson, Zaporozhye, Mykolaiv, Dnepropetrovsk and Crimean regions... And this is a few additional million tons of grain... We will also seriously deal with field-protective afforestation...

On hearing the latter, Goering grunted so contentedly that Tevosyan broke off and looked at the Reichsmarshal. And he declared:

- It turns out, Herr Tevosyan, we think alike here ... I also really like greenery, forests ... And already several years ago I approved green belt schemes around all major cities ... Cities need lungs, the population needs places of rest ... - I think, Herr Goering,

your experience will be useful to us, and, I hope, ours to you too," Tevosyan agreed and explained: "In Turkmenistan, we will lay the Main Turkmen Canal from the Amu Darya to Krasnovodsk and turn it into an oasis of Kara-Kum ... The length of the diversion irrigation and water pipelines is more than thousands of kilometers... And along the irrigation canals, we plant mulberries to provide a leaf for silk production... And the experience of mass planting will certainly come in handy here. Tevosyan spoke with enthusiasm, but his unsentimental audience was also carried

away - the Russian spoke about amazing things! Participation in such projects is the dream of any business person. Here already

you won't go bankrupt, especially when you deal with the Bolsheviks, who are very uncompromising, but they pay - on time! And

the Russian continued: -

And, finally, we will build two largest hydroelectric power plants on the Volga - Kuibyshevskaya and Stalingradskaya ... In total, they, the Kakhovskaya hydroelectric power station and hydroelectric power stations in Turkmenistan will produce twenty-one billion kilowatt-hours of cheap energy in an average year in terms of water content.

Tevosyan fell silent, glanced around at the steel and electric "kings" and raised his right index finger upwards: - And this, colleagues, is one hydro-

construction! And in the plan we have dozens of only large thermal stations! We will create a new ring power system, and these are high-voltage power lines thousands of kilometers long! We will electrify the old railways and build new ones...

He fell silent again, again looked around at everyone, stopping him at Goering, and finished: "You

yourself understand that everything that has been said presupposes a new general industrial and social upsurge. And we invite you, colleagues, to take the most active part in all this! Tevosyan fell silent, without adding another

word, and the hall became quiet. Everyone pondered what had been said, also waiting for Goering's reaction. He, too, was silent, thought, and then smiled with the smile of a skillful charmer and said: "So, Herr Tevosyan, you offer us to share with you such a rich

booty as your new five-year plan ... And I thought that yesterday's bear would become my main trophy!" And in the hall there was heard, though not deafening, but quite sincere

laughter.

Goering laughed, both Krupp and Schacht laughed, the restrained Count von Krogzik smiled, and even Otto Steinbrink, who was close to Flick ... Everyone laughed - the tension of the last half hour required relaxation. Tevosyan also smiled.

Very different people gathered HERE... Ivan Tevosyan came to this meeting from the thick of the people, as they said then. And he walked not like a successful nouveau riche rogue, but like an honest young soldier of the revolution.

And the son of the banker and diplomat Gustav von Bohlen und Halbach and Sofia, nee von Halbach, Gustav von Bohlen und Halbach from the cradle absorbed the psychology of the chosen one of fate ... The same age as Lenin - born in 1870, he graduated from the Faculty of Law of Heidelberg University at twenty-three, and at twenty-seven years began hereditary career as a diplomat, was secretary of the embassies in Washington and Beijing, counselor of the embassy in the Vatican. At thirty-six, he, a natural aristocrat, married the daughter and sole heiress of the old Friedrich Alfred Krupp, Bertha, and, with the special consent of Kaiser Wilhelm II, became known as Krupp von Bohlen und Halbach. The Krupps have always collaborated with the Russians, both before the revolution and after the revolution. In the early 1920s, it was

Krupp who supplied us with seven hundred and fifty steam locomotives from the first thousand purchased by the RSFSR abroad, which pulled Russia to the first five-year plans (two hundred were supplied by Sweden). Until 1934, in the Salsky district on the Don, there was an agricultural concession Krupp - "for the conduct of rational agriculture." Krupp took most of the

income for himself, and in exchange we got the experience we needed. Krupp traded with the Bolsheviks and military technology - in his design office in Essen there was a special "Russian" department. And Krupp was not alone - the German industrialists supplied Soviet Russia with the main part of

the material base for the creation of our new industrial power. And the president of the German Society for the Study of Eastern Europe and a member of the supervisory board of the chemical superconcern IG Farbenindustri, Schmidt-Ott, wrote in February 1931 to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Weimar Germany, Curtius: "I have always believed that I have the right to consider all the activities of the society as promoting the development of our relations with Russia..." Curtius did not argue—he thought so himself—and a year later replaced Schmidt-Ott as president of the society.

Yes, different people listened to Schwartz-Ivan Tevosyan ... But one thing united them and made them related - a common business acumen and, moreover, love for

Germany. Their personal fate inevitably made them, to some extent, also cosmopolitans - contrary to the catchy phrase of Marx, not proletarians, but capitalists most often do not have a fatherland. But among the German industrial and financial elite, the patriotic stratum was not only influential, but also very numerous. The atmosphere of the Fuhrer's Reich did not really encourage the spread of the ideas of the Golden Elite, even though the German Opel had long belonged to the overseas General Motors. These people were ready to provide the Fuhrer with an armed clash with Russia. But the

Fuhrer, it seems, chose a different path in the end ... Well, they were ready to ensure the Fuhrer and friendship with Russia. Moreover, it could give even more tempting dividends than war! Goering laughed and said seriously: "Herr Tevosyan!" This is grandiose! But in the near future you will see new construction sites. And before

us is the old war ... Do you take this into account?

"Of course, Herr Goering! But I did say that we intend to seriously help you this year and early next ... We have transformed the Triple Alliance into a Quadruple Alliance. And we are interested in your war to end as soon as possible, and to end in such a way that you get the opportunity to fully share our economic plans. I am not a military man like you... However, I hope that by the end of this year the Axis countries will have decisive military successes...

Göring and the industrialists left loaded with hunting trophies, while Tevosyan left for Moscow to report to Stalin about his "trophies". Neither Stalin nor he counted on the fact that the hunt in Belaya Vezha would end in something specific. It was impossible from any point of view - economic negotiations do not end in two days. It was important to make it clear to the Germans (and ultimately to the Fuhrer) that Russian friendship with the Germans is serious and

for a long time.

The Fuhrer was also satisfied with Goering's "hunt". He was preparing the autumn African campaign and increasingly counted on Russian assistance where it was real.

The Fuhrer was in a hurry, because the Anglo-Saxons were becoming more active. On June 16, 1941, Roosevelt closed all German consulates in the United States, and on June 19, Germany announced the closure of all US consulates in the territory of the Axis countries. The atmosphere of the summer of 1941 was heated up not only by the hot sun ...

However, the general situation was already working against America and England, and they more and more often failed even on that world periphery, where they could previously count, if not on sympathy, then on unconditional obedience. Even in Abyssinia, where the Duce's troops had long ago turned against themselves the majority of the Ethiopians, the British were deprived of popular support. Ethiopian partisans - so far without agreement with the Italians - began to beat the Britons here and there! What can we say about India, which was dragged into the war against the Germans without asking! There, a campaign of civil disobedience expanded, and in response, the British authorities arrested 30,000 members of the Indian National Congress party. As a result, more and more often the Indians thought about focusing on the Reich and Japan - just like the Thais, Khmers, Vietnamese ... The Dutch also had a hard time in the Dutch

Indies ... Sumatra, Java, Borneo-Kalimantan, Sulawesi-Celebes - these huge islands were a source for the Netherlands huge profits. Malaya and the Dutch Indies accounted for 78 percent of the world's natural rubber and 67 percent of tin. And up to 90 percent of the tin and 75 percent of the rubber went to the United States.

LET'S LOOK at the map... Here is China, below it is Indochina, the Indochinese peninsula. To the west is the Indian "triangle" of the Hindustan peninsula, washed by the Indian Ocean. And from the Indochinese Peninsula in the southeast direction, the narrow Malacca Peninsula branches off, separating the South China Sea of the Pacific Ocean from the Andaman Sea of the Indian

ocean. North Malacca belongs to Thailand. The southern, wider, part of the peninsula is occupied by Malaya. And at the very tip is the English Singapore. Singapore! That point, which the Fuhrer so insistently

pointed out

to the Japanese. The nerve center of the entire British colonial policy in Southeast Asia ... Only the narrow Strait of Malacca separates it from Sumatra. And like a thorn, Singapore pierces the body of the Indonesian islands - a Dutch possession even in the 20th century. The Anglo-Saxons have been talking about the natural right of peoples to those lands where they have lived

from time immemorial since the First World War ... But before it, and after it, they violated this right exactly to the extent that it was beneficial for them and to what extent they it was allowed. The Russians in October 1917 rebelled in general against capitalist violence against the will of the peoples. The

Germans at the end of the thirties rebelled only against the anti-German offspring - the regime of Versailles. But the Russians and Germans were peoples who knew how to make modern weapons and hold them in their hands. The peoples of Asia had yet to learn this craft, at least the latter. And they began to think about an alliance with those who were against the Anglo-Saxons,

and at the same time had their own weapons. The closest was Japan. And the patriots in the Dutch Indies, convinced that even under the threat of Japanese invasion, the Dutch were not inclined to acquire the friendship of the island people at the cost of abandoning the colonial regime and granting independence to Indonesia, began to lean towards Japan. And the Moluccas archipelago had the most important strategic and

economic importance.

On September 22, 1940, the colonial French authorities in Hanoi signed an agreement on the deployment of Japanese troops in Northern Indochina, and by the end of September, Japan occupied it, entering Indochina from Chinese territory. Now, on July 25, 1941, the Japanese concluded an agreement with Vichy France on the use of bases in southern Indochina. And by July 27, they controlled almost the entire Indochinese Peninsula. The Yankees reacted instantly: on July 25, 1941, they announced an embargo on the

supply of oil to Japan and all strategic

materials. At the same time, the United States and Britain sequestered all of Japan's assets and canceled trade agreements with her. A group of American advisers went to China, to Chiang Kai-shek.

The Japanese, however, hesitated. On July 17, 1941, Prince Konoe accepted Matsuoka's resignation, although he himself remained prime minister. Konoe was not averse to waiting, but the Tojo group pressed in the direction of war with yankees.

CRIPPs in Moscow no longer entertained any hope of any success. June passed, July ended, almost half of August passed ... It became completely clear that in 1941 the Germans would not go on a campaign to the East. And this campaign became generally more and more problematic and less and less real. Already on May 14, 1941, Eden's deputy Butler almost shouted to Ambassador Maisky:

Your actions in Iraq are unacceptable! Your recognition of Iraq makes an extremely unfavorable impression in London! You have entered into an agreement with Rashid Ali - an adventurer and a swindler!

"Mr. Butler," Maisky calmed the British Deputy Minister, "the Iraqi government turned to us with a proposal to establish diplomatic relations even before Gailani headed it ... We are dealing with the government that is in Baghdad. - But you, Mr. Maisky, chose an extremely unfortunate moment

to establish relations with Iraq! Butler pressed.

Maisky ruffled his head like a fighting cock - the situation quite allowed him to do this, and answered: - Mr.

Deputy Minister! If someone in London does not like our behavior, what should we do? The USSR pursues its own, independent policy, which is dictated by its interests! And the nature of relations between the USSR and England is not such that in our actions we take into account possible reactions in London ...

Butler suddenly became embarrassed and turned off the conversation - it was not worth angering the Russians. But even without this, the political season of the summer of 1941 was getting hotter for both London and Washington. The Russians did not just politically support Iraq, but with their support they changed the whole Middle East situation in general in favor of the "axis". When Cripps tried to hint about this to Vyshinsky in July, he remarked dryly:

Mr Cripps! Did you agree to the deployment of US troops in the Persian Gulf?

Cripps couldn't deny it, and silently nodded his head. - Why?

What should American troops do thousands of miles from home? "America has

oil fields in Iraq and Saudi... They must be protected!" - Mr. Ambassador! Let the Arabs

themselves take care of it ... After all, in fairness, the crafts belong to them. The United States has enough oil fields on its own territory. Let them be protected! And more about the oil fields, but already - ours ... Britain had plans to bombard Baku?

It was a pity to look at Cripps - the Russians had never asked such questions in the forehead before. And again he simply remained silent, waiting for what the deputy people's commissar would say.

And Vyshinsky said: - In this case, silence is a sign of consent. You intended to bomb our industries from bases in Iraqi Mosul ... And after that you reproach us with our policy in Iraq? Cripps was

sullenly silent. Then he squeezed out: - I

see, Mr. Vyshinsky, Adolf Hitler completely charmed Mr. Stalin, and Russia follows in the wake of the Nazis ... - Mr. Ambassador! We are not

children to be tempted by a kind uncle's candy, and we are not donkeys to reach for a carrot hanging in front of our noses. We proceed from our own interests. And I'll say it bluntly: it's not in our interests to fight Hitler - as you would like it to be ... I express this opinion unofficially, purely from myself, but rather England recklessly follows in the wake of America, forgetting that although she is an island, she is in the Old, and not in the New World!

YES, THE PEOPLES behaved more assertively. And the Golden Elite had to urgently gather strength and decide what to do next? Indeed, in England, the goals of the war were not even clearly defined! And on August 14, 1941, Roosevelt and Churchill secretly met near Newfoundland on board the British battlecruiser Prince of Wales. The outcome of the meeting was the publication of the Joint Statement on the aims and principles of the war. It

was immediately loudly called the "Atlantic Charter" - with a hint of the Magna Carta ... On the deck of the Prince of Wales, a brilliant company of generals and admirals, young and not very young senior officers, gathered under the cool sun. They surrounded with bibles in the hands of Roosevelt and Churchill sitting in armchairs and after them sang a psalm of thanksgiving. The faces of all were befitting the occasion, that is, lean and at the same time utterly hypocritical. It was not surprising: with the exception of the young lieutenants and ordinary sailors placed here for the appropriate entourage, almost all those present were sophisticated in the most disgusting hypocrisy. And above all, this could be said about the two main figures brought by the Golden Elite to the forefront (that is, to the deck) of world history.

On August 24, 1941, Churchill sat in front of the BBC microphones and narrated about a recent meeting:

- We are in a safe harbor, located somewhere in the Atlantic, where the rays of the sun, breaking through a haze of fog, play on the metal parts of mighty ships under the British and American flags...

Churchill spoke in a theatrically convincing sonorous voice, acting even in front of a radio audience that could not see his face. - In our Atlantic

harbor, on Sunday, we performed a service. The President went out on the deck of the Prince of Wales, where hundreds of American and British sailors and marines stood intermingled. In the light of the bright sun, radiating heat, we all sang the ancient hymns that are our common heritage and have been taught to us since childhood. We sang a hymn based on the psalm that John Hampden's soldiers sang as they committed his body to the ground... We sang "Forward, Christ's Host"! And indeed I

I felt that this is not vanity and we have the right to realize that we are serving the cause to which we have been called by a trumpet voice from above ...

* * *

SO, Churchill and Roosevelt declared an 8-point charter on the goals of the war and the post-war system. It was the face of the world in the public (that is, for the public) representation of the two "great races that speak English." They vowed that "after the final destruction of Nazi tyranny and the disarmament of the aggressors, both countries will work for the benefit of such a world that will ensure that all people can live their whole lives without fear or want." The charter declared:

- Prevention of territorial changes without the consent of the people living there; - the right of all peoples to choose for themselves the form of government under which they want to live;
- restoration of sovereign rights and self-government of those peoples who were deprived of this by force;
- equal conditions for trade and access to sources of raw materials for all states; — equal economic cooperation; - freedom of the seas; — disarmament of the aggressors; - renunciation of the use of force in international relations and the deliverance of mankind from the burden of armaments ...

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At the end of the thirties - long before the start of the German-Polish war, which was turned by the Golden Elite of the West into a world war - the German Minister of Economics Gutenberg at the World Economic Conference urged its participants to ensure equal economic cooperation, equal terms for all states of trade and access to sources of raw materials ...

And for more than one century, the colonial powers of the West, and England above all, have forcibly deprived dozens of peoples of self-government and the sovereign right to choose for themselves the form of government under which they want to live. And now, once again, from the board of the English battleship, the Anglo-Saxons threw bait into the waters of world politics, which they themselves muddled, counting on the traditionally high catch of dividends from the traditional deception of the peoples of the world.

However, the prey more and more often fell off the hook, or even simply did not wanted to fall for him. **The**

people have grown wiser.

STALIN held a meeting in Moscow at the end of August with Dimitrov, Italian Tolyatti and Frenchman Toretz.

- The situation, comrades, has changed beyond recognition - you can see for yourself ... We are getting not just a peaceful respite, we have the opportunity to completely withdraw the war from the USSR, and this gives a decisive advantage to the forces of socialism in the future. In England, the workers are under the influence of the trade unions, and you can't build socialism with these citrines... In America, the working class can be considered bribed for the time being - there are still enough dollars for that. Therefore, the peaceful development of the USSR is the main thing for the communists of the world! This is what everyone should be directed towards.

"But how does that fit in with your friendship with Hitler?" Togliatti asked. "Not with Hitler, but with

Germany, Comrade Togliatti. If we need peace, then we can ensure peace only together with Germany. Therefore, the communists who will fight against Hitler's Germany will actually fight against the world. Here's what needs to be explained... In conditions when Germany has refused (and it seems to have refused) the idea of war with the USSR, the struggle against Germany pours water on the mill of World Capital. And this also needs to be explained... Especially in Serbia... Stalin did not accidentally single out the Serbs. If Hungarians, Romanians, Slovaks, Bulgarians, Czechs, Croats and even Greeks for various reasons, but

they did not enter into a conflict with the Germans, or even collaborated with them, then with the Serbs it turned out differently ... England and the USA managed to provoke them to resistance. In the summer of 1941, two illegal (largely partisan) political groups began to form in Yugoslavia: the Chetniks of monarchist colonel Mikhailovich in the mountains of Western Serbia and the communist brigades of the General Secretary of the Communist Kingdom of Yugoslavia, Josip Broz Tito, with headquarters in Uzhitz. Mihailoviĭ was associated with

the Nediĭ government in Belgrade and with the Yugoslav royal government in exile based in London. Tito's social program was unacceptable to him. And the Chetniks often fought not with the Germans, but with Tito's partisans. Soon the London government appointed Mihailoviĭ as their Minister of War. And his pro-English essence became obvious. Josip Broz Tito faced a difficult choice... Moscow improved relations with Berlin, but what should Tito do?

Anti-German sentiment among the Serbs had a long tradition since the time of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. Tito could not take the side of the Germans. Moscow did not recommend going against them. But Stalin conveyed to Tito that negotiations with the Germans could be counted on on the basis of two points: the Germans were carrying out a land reform in Serbia, and the Serbian masses supported a government that would follow the example of Croatia, which received independent status, that is, restore Serbia's membership in the Tripartite (now already, however, the Quadruple) Union. The Serbs supply the occupying troops and the Reich with food and are included in the struggle against England. Tito could become prime minister of such a government.

HOWEVER, the factor of small countries was still secondary. Moreover, in the near future one could expect the emergence of completely new and very powerful factors - the atomic problem was on the agenda in the leading countries of the world.

Chapter 14

Outside the windows of the Stalinist dacha, the first yellow strands were golden in the August greenery of lindens, when Stalin and Beria had a long and difficult conversation. Stalin did not beat around the bush, but after listening to Beria's report on the situation in the Council of People's Commissars and in the People's Commissariat of Internal

Affairs, he immediately said: - Lavrenty, we are now considering whether to replace you as people's

commissar, or ... - For what, Comrade Stalin? Beria interrupted him passionately. He I couldn't even restrain myself from surprise and didn't listen to the end.

- Not for what, but why ... -

Well, why? "You

didn't let me finish... I said "or"... It's possible not to replace it, but it becomes necessary to entrust you with one important task. And I don't know if you have enough strength and time for the people's commissariat. Beria shook his head, shrugged his shoulders, thought. - Well, Comrade Stalin, it all depends on what kind of business it is ... - And such that we, firstly, will strengthen you for him along the lines of the Central Committee and transfer you from candidates to members of the Politburo.



Beria could not hide the joy and pride that filled him ... The First Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars and a member of the Politburo - it was a lot. And Beria loved power, being a brilliant manager who knew how to rule harshly, but competently. Stalin understood Beria's feelings and said warningly: "Lavrentiy!"

And wagged his finger slightly.

"Understood, Comrade Stalin. -

We'll see about it ... So ... Does the name Khariton mean anything to you? — Khariton? So, so... I

remember, there was such a writer... A Cadet, before the revolution he edited their organ - "Rech"... In the twenty-second year he was expelled. — Yes, there is one... But I mean

another one — Professor Yuliy Khariton. - A namesake? - No, son ... The father moved to Riga long

ago, and the son is

with us ... Physicist. - I don't know... - But I'll probably have to find out... - What, the

apple didn't fall

far from the tree? - No, everything is in

order here ... The son is a completely reliable

person. He

it is as a physicist that we are interested.

- I, Comrade Stalin, understand a little about construction, but about physics ... - Beria frankly waved his hand and laughed.

"Well, we all understand it no more than you do. And on the other hand, the Bolsheviks helped Russian physics in two decades in the same way that the tsars did not help in two centuries.

Stalin walked around the office, sat down, dragged on his pipe, slammed his palm on the table and motioned Beria to a chair:

"Sit down!" That's what, Lavrenty, there is such a thing - intra-atomic energy. - Stalin suddenly interrupted himself: - No, all the same, what a clever Ilyich was!

Look ... He handed Beria a brand new book, on the

cover of which stood: "V. I. Lenin. Materialism and empirio-criticism"—and below: "Sotsekgiz. 1939 ": - Look ... Academician Vavilov wrote the preface ... Stalin opened the book and

read:

"The atom, which so recently seemed to physicists at best a useful "working hypothesis", as a result of the study of Brownian motion, light scattering, surface-capillary phenomena, during observations in

cloud chamber and so on, has become as obviously an existing object as the sun.

After reading this, Stalin paused, raised his finger and went on:

“Having caught the atom itself, the physicist managed to penetrate deeply into its bowels in three decades ... Thus, Lenin’s dialectical forecast about the inexhaustibility of the atom and electron was fully confirmed by the development of physics ...”

Beria listened attentively, but with obvious bewilderment. Stalin, closing the book, looked at him and said: “This is what Vavilov writes ... And he

means the words of Ilyich that the electron is inexhaustible just like the atom, that nature is endless ... And Vladimir Ilyich wrote this thirty years ago, in the year nineteen hundred and nine. Beria shrugged his shoulders: - And what does Professor Khariton have to do with it? - And despite the fact that there is

information that in England

and the United States, work is being actively carried

out to release a huge amount of nuclear energy released during radioactive decay, and large funds have been allocated for this work ... - Such data have been received, but it seems that everything this is a lie! - Maybe not. Our academicians Vernadsky, Fersman and Khlopin write about the same thing... - And what does Khariton have to do with it? - And Khariton, as the same

academicians report, substantiated ... - Stalin took a sheet of paper from the

table and read: - “He substantiated the possibility of a nuclear fission chain reaction in uranium ...” - Practically?

- No, for now - on paper ...

And now we will instruct you from the Politburo to deal with this matter in practice. Beria adjusted his pince-nez, scratched his head, remarked jokingly: “Some kind of prison terms: cloud chamber, chains.”

some...

Stalin also laughed:

- You see now! Who, if not you, our main
Jailer, here and cards in hand?

He got up and patted him on the
shoulder: "That's it, Comrade Beria... I think you understand that you are
entrusted with an important task... But you, Lavrenty Pavlovich, work to the fullest
in the Council of People's Commissars
for the time being." Beria nodded his head, and
Stalin added: "And the guys from Merkulov's intelligence are aimed at these
intra-nuclear affairs ... I feel that this is a serious thing."

THESE damn neutrons were a really serious thing. There was talk of
powerful intra-atomic energy already at the beginning of the century - when
the weapons using it were described only by novelists like Ilya Ehrenburg.
However, in practice, the question began to develop after the neutron
experiments in 1938 by the Germans Hahn and Strassmann. And after it
became known that when a uranium atom is bombarded with neutrons, it
splits into two smaller atoms with the release of new neutrons and a self-
sustaining nuclear chain reaction begins, it would seem that it was not a
problem to make an atomic bomb. But there was a problem... Firstly, only
uranium-235 was suitable

for weapons, and obtaining the right amount of this rare isotope in nature
cost a lot of money. Secondly, it was not clear - is it worth it to spend a lot of
money and effort on this new game with a very uncertain result already now?
The Golden Elite is always thoroughly aware of everything, already because
it has long realized the importance

of accurate and, most importantly, monopoly information. Rothschild,
with the help of a carrier pigeon, was the first to know about the defeat of
Napoleon at Waterloo and amassed millions in a matter of hours. And even
if this is just a historical anecdote, there is a lot of historical truth in it. But in
terms of "atomic" cases, even the informed elite of the Elite had something
to think about. After all, even the famous Jew

Niels Bohr doubted the possibility of the practical implementation of the
idea!

Therefore, in the mid-thirties, urgent work began to assess the chances of success. I had to hurry! A powerful new weapon was about to appear in the world, and, of course, America, the headquarters of the Golden International, should have sole possession of it. Oddly enough, the emperors of

Germany provided the basis for future atomic work ... It is unlikely that science in the last quarter of the 19th and early 20th centuries enjoyed such powerful state support as in the Second Reich. As a result, it turned out to be the birthplace of many advanced physical ideas that were put forward and developed at the expense of the German people by the great Germans Helmholtz, Roentgen, Hertz, Geiger, Max von Laue, Planck, Heisenberg, Sommerfeld, the Austrian Schrödinger ... The

universal genius Hermann Ludwig Helmholtz from 1888 became director of the State Institute of Physics and Technology in Berlin. Wilhelm Konrad Roentgen received the first ever Nobel Prize in physics in 1901 (the second in 1902 was awarded to two Dutch physicists closely associated with German science - professor at the University of Leiden and director of the Harlem Research Institute Lorenz and Peter Szeeman) ... In the First World War the Second Reich fell, but its

scientific potential has not disappeared. And in the twenties, the German Jew Max Born founded a large school of theoretical physics in German Göttingen with a surprisingly international team of students: Fermi, Dirac, Oppenheimer, von Neumann, Teller, Wigner, Weiskopf, Rosenfeld and others ... Almost all of them were Jews, including and the owner of the aristocratic prefix "von" Neumann (his father, a successful Budapest banker, simply bought the title of Neumann von Margitt, which was standard practice for wealthy Jews in Austria-Hungary). The Born group was associated with the Jewish physicists Einstein

and Szilard-Spitz, who worked in Germany, the Jewish mathematicians Wiener, Courant ... The time had come - and they were all gathered in America to make the "Absolute Bomb" for the Golden Elite. When it became clear that the case

could "burn out", a 46-year-old native of small-town Russia, financier Alexander Saks, joined the game. Personal friend and unofficial adviser to President Roosevelt,

Sachs introduced him to the course of events, and "for the sake of history" a story was invented with "Einstein's letter" to Roosevelt, where the former allegedly drew the attention of the latter to the importance of work on uranium.

Actually, interest in uranium then arose everywhere in the developed world - in the USSR, the first document on this problem, bringing it into the category of state ones, appeared in June 1940. True, our emphasis was placed on the peaceful, energy aspect. And in America... In America, on June 15, 1940, the day after the fall of

Paris, Roosevelt

signed an order establishing a commission to study the possibility of using atomic energy for military purposes. Here Hitler became just a convenient pretext, but the essence was different: the forces of the World Evil rushed to possess the fundamental forces of the Universe in the name of consolidating their power over the world.

The atomic epic also did not bypass England, where for a long time there were also many outstanding physicists. It was in Rutherford's Cavendish Laboratory in Cambridge that Chadwick discovered those damned neutrons in 1932... Empowered by cosmopolitan physicists from continental Europe (Pierls from Switzerland, Frisch from Denmark, Rotblat from Poland, etc.), the Britons also began active probing of the idea of "absolute weapons". And it soon became clear that even the first research needed considerable public funds. In America, Sachs enlightened the authorities. In England, this was entrusted to the author of the principle of "carpet bombing" - Professor Lindemann. Sachs was a personal friend and adviser to Roosevelt, and Lindemann to Churchill. Sir Winston openly called him the confidant of his thoughts. It was Frederick Lindemann who told the British prime minister that it was necessary to work on the atomic problem. And in April 1940, England formed its own "atomic" committee, hiding under the

meaningless abbreviation "MOD". It was headed by the son of the famous physicist J. Thomson (Lord Kelvin) - J. P. Thomson.

The project received the meaningless name again "Tube alloys" ("Alloys for pipes"). In July

1941, a MOU report was presented to Churchill, where said:

"Even if the war ends before the atomic bombs are made, this labor will not be wasted."

Armed with such conclusions and encouraged by them, Churchill went to the Newfoundland meeting with Roosevelt... Having views of the "absolute weapon" in their pocket, the Anglo-Saxons could easily put the bait of the "Atlantic Charter" into the mousetrap for the peoples. The

Anglo-Saxons were in a hurry - the Fuhrer's refusal from the Barbarossa immediately created many problems for them - even current ones. And what was there to say about long-range strategic calculations? There was no time to waste. However, science is not a parade ground, and physicists are not recruits. They hurried, but slowly. Practical ways to implement theoretical ideas were not so easy to find.

As for the Reich, the final rejection of the Barbarossa simplified many of its problems. Back in the spring, Rommel repeatedly urged the Fuhrer to allocate an additional number of torpedo boats to the Mediterranean Sea, but the Fuhrer refused over and over again - the boats were supposed to be used to block sea communications between Kronstadt and Tallinn, Tallinn and the ports of the Gulf of Riga, Tallinn and Hanko ... Now it has become

possible strengthen the Mediterranean. The 3rd flotilla of torpedo boats, previously intended for operations in the Black Sea, was completely transferred there.

German torpedo boats within their range were a serious threat to the enemy - especially in combination with aircraft. Having high speed, two torpedo tubes, depth charges and smoke devices, anti-aircraft weapons and a crew of 20-30 people, they, under the command of experienced and energetic officers, could attack enemy convoys and defend their own. And this

immediately affected the supply of the African group.

But that was just the

beginning! During the first period of the war in the Mediterranean, the Italian fleet played a leading role. Italian ships were faster than English ones, and Italian sailors knew their "home" maritime theater very well. In the summer of 1940, the British and French opposed the Italians. But by July, the French had fallen away, and the Duce's fleet became much easier. The overall ratio of the forces of the fleets was rather in their favor - if we bear in mind the ability of the fleet to support the war efforts of the nation as a whole. The Italians had up to six battleships, including two of the latest Littorio types with 15-inch guns, a triple superiority in heavy cruisers and destroyers, a superiority in light cruisers, and an overwhelming

superiority in submarines. The Duce did not have aircraft carriers ... The Britons, on the other hand, kept up to four aircraft carriers at the theater - for example, the Ark Royal.

The British were based in Malta and Alexandria. On November 11, 1940, almost the entire British Mediterranean Fleet attacked the main forces of the Italian fleet in the naval base in Taranto. The operation was successful - the battleship "Cavour" sank, the battleships "Giulio Cesare" and "Littorio" sat on the ground. The preponderance of large ships passed to Britain, and the British transferred some of them to the Atlantic. In terms of light ships, the Axis countries had an advantage - as in aviation, however, the load on the security forces for convoys to Africa was excessive, the ships spent at sea 27-28 days a month. Minor repairs, bunkering, absolutely insufficient rest, and again at sea.

In the summer, the African Theater was relatively calm. However, on July 19, 1941, Rommel sent a letter to Hitler, where he wrote:

“In my opinion, the problem of Malta should be solved immediately ... Actions against Tunisia and Bizerte are absolutely necessary for the successful development of the offensive in the Nile Valley ...”

He added to this:

"It is necessary to have a large aviation force in the Mediterranean. The tenth air corps is not enough not only for control over the Mediterranean Sea, but also for air support of the African Front ... It is necessary that the convoys in the Sicilian Strait do not meet opposition ... "

Rommel was on point. When looking at a map of the Mediterranean, one could see this ... The main communications of the Britons went from Gibraltar along Morocco and Algiers to the Cape of Tunis and from there - directly to Malta. After the intermediate finish in Malta, the route of the convoys went to Egypt, to Alexandria. Communications of

the Italo-German corps were significantly shorter - from Sicily through the Strait of Sicily to Tripoli in Libya. Just some five hundred kilometers ... Not - kilometers of military, deadly. And by sea. In addition, just on the way from Sicily to Libya stood ... Yes - there was Malta. If Malta could be taken, then the path would become not only

safer, but also much

shorter - if Tunisia could also be made a reliable rear base. But so far the situation in Tunisia has not been stable.

The Germans had another sea communication "shoulder" that had to be covered - from Tripoli along the Libyan coast to Tobruk. It was safer, but it was also threatened

the English.

The transfer of boats from the Black Sea, and a little later - from the Baltic changed the situation in the Mediterranean beyond recognition! Most of the aviation forces, previously concentrated for attacks on Paldiski, Riga, Tallinn, Kronstadt, Hanko, Sevastopol, Odessa, were now also freed up to strike at Malta and ... And - it's very possible! - also

in Gibraltar! After all, now the caudillo Franco was less vague about the Reich. A year ago, Serrano Ramon Sunier - Franco's brother-in-law and his foreign minister - could reproach the Fuhrer for behaving like a petty Jewish huckster! Sunyer! .. Fuhrer !! And - in what! Now the Spaniards hid ... They knew that it was bad to deal with the Russians

as with enemies, but very well - as with friends and allies. In the light of this, the chances of success of the Felix operation on Gibraltar, which had been set aside for the time being,

were sharply increased. The British sought to plug the "hole of the Strait of Sicily" for the "axis" countries. But now the Germans and Italians could set the task of shutting up the entire Mediterranean Sea for the British ... The capture of even one of the two British strongholds - even Malta, even Gibraltar, solved this problem. The loss of both Gibraltar and Malta meant an imminent collapse for the Britons throughout the Mediterranean, North Africa and the

Near and Middle East. The British continued to accumulate in Egypt - the main area of their deployment. The Germans are in the region of Tobruk and Iraq ... The Italians helped Rommel, kept Ethiopia and Eritrea, the port of Massawa on the Red Sea, and that was enough for them so far.

For both sides, superiority at sea and in the air meant more and more. Having provided it, the Fuhrer and the Duce ensured control over North Africa and the Arab East. At the same time, it was important for Rommel not to let himself be drawn into protracted battles of mobile formations, but to immediately defeat the British with a decisive powerful blow. And inflict it in such a way that England could not transfer troops to the defense of the mother country or hit the southern European flank of the "axis". That is, sea communications in the Mediterranean Sea became for the Germans

the road to victory. And now - dear real.

Chapter 15

On September 9, 1941, Churchill declared in Parliament that the provision of the Atlantic Charter to restore the sovereign rights and self-government of those peoples who were deprived of this by force does not apply to the British colonies. Like, both Anglo-Saxon governments had in mind only the states of Europe, "under the yoke of Nazism." After that, Churchill authorized the "carpet bombing" of German cities, invented by his trusted friend Professor Lindemann.

In July 1941, the RAF had 33 squadrons of medium and 4 squadrons of heavy bombers capable of bombing the Reich. In total - 800 aircraft. Airplanes, however, must

be controlled. And a third of the crews had no experience in night flights; no more than half of the available forces took part in nightly raids. And these forces began to dry up, too quickly. At first, up to a hundred sorties were made on average per night. They bombed Hamburg and Frankfurt am Main, Bremen and Hannover, Stuttgart and Aachen, Kassel and Cologne... They also bombed Berlin. But

the losses began to become catastrophic. In just one night of raids on Berlin, the Ruhr, Mannheim and Cologne, out of 400 aircraft, 37 did not return to their bases.

From the raid on Berlin - 21 out of 169. And this was not the limit - after all, the air defense of the Reich was strengthened due to the forces that the rejection of the Barbarossa gave. Churchill and Lindemann gradually fell into a restrained panic. Still would! Everything was upset! German anti-aircraft guns, instead of shooting down Russian DB-Zf, Pe-2, SB and Il-2 over Russia, shot down English Liberators and American Boeings over Germany. Thus, all the plans of the Golden Clan, to which Prime Minister Churchill served with his policy, and Professor Lindemann with his scientific calculations, could go to waste.

The British Air Force was losing material and personnel, and Churchill was losing feigned

complacency. Charlie Chaplin gave his Dictator the appearance of the Fuhrer, not Sir Winston. And not because, of course, that Chaplin and Churchill had a very different physique - if desired, the great comedian could have put a pillow under his belt and under his belt. But he didn't. And in vain - the film "The Dictator" on the theme of Churchill could turn out psychologically and historically much more interesting and truthful ... But was it possible to denounce "democracy" in its Churchill-Roosevelt performance! No, after watching Chaplin's "masterpiece" at the airbase club, the English guys - smiling and handsome, like all the pilots of the world, were supposed to go for this "democracy" on a night flight, and then burn in the German night sky, being shot down by pretty blond German anti-aircraft gunners and fighters . They

were on fire.

Of course, when making his film, "sad Charlie" was not an accomplice of the Anglo-Saxon maniacs, overwhelmed by the maniacs of being chosen. He was just the object of their deft manipulation of both the public consciousness and the consciousness of the filmmaker himself. But that is precisely why Chaplin's creation did not clarify the essence of the

However, the Golden Elite itself began to get confused in the essence of what was happening, maniacally rushing to world domination. In the early autumn of 1941, in the mansion already familiar to us, the Dulles brothers discussed the situation with the seventy-year-old Bernard Mannes Baruch ... A descendant of Hasidic tzaddiks and rabbis from Russian Poland, at the end of the 19th century - a successful broker on Wall Street, at the beginning of the 20th century - the owner of big capital, during World War I, he was chairman of the US War Economics Board and head of the War Industrial Administration with the powers of an economic dictator. At that time, Baruch also became close friends with Winston Churchill, but - unlike the ambitious Sir Winston - he preferred the role of "gray

eminence". "Gentlemen," thought Baruch, shaking his gray head, "every time Russia spoils the game for us ... Before that war, we did everything to tie it to us ... With the help of "brother" Witte

we tied the tsars with loans, and they went on a leash with us - straight to war with the Kaiser.

Baruch smiled dreamily: - The

Russians beat the Germans, the Germans - the French, the exhaustion was mutual, and we calmly waited in the wings ... In 1917, the hour came, and we came to Europe. Alas, the revolution came to Russia at the same time... Not ours - ours was the February revolution, which was organized by the "brothers" in the Russian "tops"... However, the Bolsheviks... Baruch shook his head again: - The

Bolsheviks took Russia out from under our noses. And thank God that they could not take Germany away. Germany fell, and we were able to first bend her, and then give her money for a new upsurge for a new war ...

The Dulles brothers - brothers both by blood and by the Masonic lodge - listened to their elder "brother" attentively: he spoke about things known to them only from confidential stories. And here in front of them sat one of the organizers of that era, and it was

healthy.

- Our plans of Dawes and Jung were good - Germany was getting stronger, and we received dividends. We have penetrated the German economy deeply and widely. We invested in the Third Reich to start it all over again! The plan was clear: first - the struggle for the place of the Germans under the sun, then - a conflict with Britain and a new war with Russia. The result - a new weakness of defeated Germany and bombed Russia ... The Dulles moved - they

themselves were already doing this. And Baruch sat motionless and spoke quietly: - Everything went on like that, and

it seemed that we had thought of everything ... The Poles were ordered to be stubborn, and they were stubborn ... Our friends in the Old World gave the Poles security guarantees, and this allowed England to announce to Hitler war... The old cosmopolitan and freemason

thought. - Yes, everything went as it

should ... Hitler, however, agreed with Stalin, but we were sure that sooner or later we would be able to push them in a fight ...

"And we've done a lot for it, sir," said John Foster.

- What's the point? Everything was going well ... But now everything is going out of hand,

damn it! The Dulles were silent, for Baruch had nothing to object to. Things were going really badly. Stalin and Hitler in 1941 slipped through the point of conflict, and now it was felt more and more clearly in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East. And one could only guess - what will this turn out to be in the near future? Iraq and the Levant zone gradually became the base of the Reich, Afghanistan and Iran were increasingly included in the common Russian-German sphere of influence ... At the end of August, in a note to Iran, the Russians pointed out the threat of occupation of the country by British troops and the threat to Baku after that. And in accordance with the 6th article of the Soviet-Iranian treaty of 1921, the Russians sent their troops into the territory of Iran. By that time, Germany had accumulated up to 11,000 "German specialists" in Iran, who were indeed specialists, but in the business of sabotage. Iran turned out to be lost for the Anglo-Saxons, but in the future it could become a new logistics and raw material base for the Germans in the Middle East, as well as an operational one. The silence was broken by

John Foster: - According to information from Germany, Heydrich on July 4 ordered disband all occult societies," he said glumly.

Allen added: "The Gauleiters are under orders to put their members in concentration camps..." "All of them?" - Everyone!

Anthroposophists, Theosophists, Freemasons, along with astrologers...

"Bad," Baruch sighed. "It doesn't get any easier from hour to hour... But what about the German

Resistance?" "We're working," Allen said curtly. "Do you want details, sir?" "I, gentlemen, need a result," Baruch replied sharply. And we are waiting for it from you. Then he nevertheless softened his

tone: "We must hurry, brothers. A very important period is coming. And time won't wait..."



Yes, the Yankees began to rush and increase the pace. This was especially evident in the production of aircraft in the United States and in England. In 1939, the USSR produced just over ten thousand aircraft. It was then a world record, but almost all the machines belonged to obsolete, unpromising types - Tukhachevsky, Uborevich, Yakir, Alksnis, Tupolev had an unkind influence on the technical policy in aviation ... That year the Germans produced a little more than eight thousand aircraft, the British - a little less ,

and the Americans - about six. Two years have passed ... By the end of the 41st, we planned to overcome the "bar" of the production of fifteen thousand new cars a year, the Germans - ten thousand. But the aircraft industry in Britain swung at the number "twenty" ... And the Yankees - at "twenty-six"! In a year and a half, they expected to exceed the mark of fifty thousand. Therefore, the next year, 1942, could become a turning point. If America had been able to keep Britain as its European base this year, then the war would have taken on a completely protracted character, weakening all the European powers. And everyone understood this. Just as everyone understood the growing importance of sea caravan routes and their blockade. As early as May 10, 1940, British troops landed in Iceland. The Germans were just beginning their

breakthroughs in northern France, nothing seemed to be clear yet - even the victory of the Reich on the continent looked problematic in May of the 40th. And Hitler's inclination towards peace with England was evident even at the time of his successful actions against the Anglo-French in the early summer of the same 40th year. The Fuehrer once again confirmed this by solemnly offering peace to Britain in July - immediately after his French triumph - after Dunkirk. Nevertheless, Churchill occupied the starting positions for a long and ruinous - for Europe and England - war. Having occupied Iceland, Churchill was preparing a place for the Yankees, who occupied the island of Iceland in July 1941 with the forces of the marines. US naval bases were urgently built in Reykjavik and Hvalfjorden, in Kjeflavik, near the capital of Iceland, a

military air base. A communication "chain" from the bases of Newfoundland through Greenland and Iceland to Britain was formed. And cargoes flowed along it to support the European war. The Yankees took over the functions of

escorting caravans in the Western and Northwestern Atlantic and this helped the British a lot - now they could transfer escort funds to other combat zones. The "neutral" Yankees not only provided part of their navy to one of the belligerents. On July 18, 1940, they also adopted an urgent program for the construction of 100 destroyers and 20 minesweepers for England. And in the week from September 15 to September 20, 1940, the United States and Britain agreed on a joint program for all military production. Accordingly, the war debt of the British Yankees grew and grew ...

Yes, war was a stepmother for some, but for the Yankees, she was always a mother, because in the 20th century all wars were generated by them. greed.

On September 4, 1940, a German submarine attacked the American destroyer Greer. It is not difficult to confuse one small warship with another, and even when looking through a periscope, and US destroyers in the North Atlantic "grazed" whole "herds", and this happened in a war zone. So the submarine commander had every reason to mistake "Greer" for "Englishman". Nevertheless, Roosevelt promptly declared that the US would attack any Axis warship in Icelandic and other American protectorate waters. And on November 13, 1940, the US Congress introduced two amendments to the **Neutrality Act**, effectively eliminating US neutrality. The ban on the entry of American ships into the war zone was lifted, but it became possible to arm merchant ships.

As a formal occasion, two more successful attacks by Reich "non-commissioned officers" on US destroyers were used: on October 17 on the Kearney and on October 31 on the Ruben James. But the Yankees themselves gave a reason, having assumed the duties of armed protection of caravans for England,

which fought against the Germans. America had to be drawn into the war that she herself gave birth to. And Germany and Russia prepared for her and the Gold

new surprises.

And above all - in Spain.

* * *

In the second half of the 1930s, thanks to the efforts of domestic champions of the world revolution such as Mikhail Koltsov-Fridland, Spain became for the Soviet people a synonym for the "fight against fascism." However, there were never any chances for a "red" Spain! Even a tenth of the country's population did not support the Communists during the elections to the Cortes. And Anglo-Saxon capital occupied the strongest positions in Spain, and the monopolies of the USA and England had infiltrated the Iberian Peninsula for a long time. The main "hook" of England in Spain was Gibraltar. Gibraltar is a peninsula stretching from north to south in the area of the Strait of Gibraltar, with an area of 5 square kilometers.

Just!

Actually, this is just a massive limestone rock up to half a kilometer high, steep from the east, flat from the west. It is connected to Spain by a narrow sandy isthmus. The whole significance of Gibraltar is determined not even by its geographical location as such: geographically, the entrance and exit to the Mediterranean Sea is blocked by the Spanish Cape Tarifa, the southernmost point of Europe. Gibraltar is located much to the northwest and far from the narrowest point of the Strait of Gibraltar, those Pillars of Hercules of antiquity. Through the Bay of Algeciras, Gibraltar is adjacent to the Spanish port of Algeciras - a place known in history for international diplomatic conferences held there.

The opposite, African shore of the strait belonged to Spain - it was the territory of Spanish Morocco with the port of Ceuta. For neighboring Tangier, on December 18, 1923, the regime of the international neutralized and demilitarized zone was established.

But the significance of the Rock of Gibraltar is determined by the fact that since the War of the Spanish Succession, since 1704, it has belonged to Britain. The Spaniards tried more than once to return Gibraltar by force of arms,

in 1779 they staged a four-year "Great Siege", but the Rock remained with the Britons. When World War II began, they cut the isthmus from the north with a moat three and a half meters wide and four and a half meters deep. And the southern tip of this most important British naval and air base was a cape with the symbolic name Europe. The Italo-German assistance to General Franco during the Spanish Civil War made the latter a figure

very loyal to the Fuhrer and Duce. Nevertheless, the caudillo, as the general was called after the suppression of the republic, looked very reluctantly at the prospect of planting Spain on the Italo-German "axis". After the defeat of France, the Fuhrer repeatedly tried to negotiate with him and seduce him with the prospects of a new Europe. Franco deftly evaded ... The problem was complicated by the fact that the Fuhrer had to be friends with Marshal Petain, and Vichy and Madrid claimed the same colonial possessions in Africa - in Morocco, in the Sahara ...

On February 6, 1941, the Fuhrer sent a letter to Franco, where he wrote:

"Dear Caudillo! ...

There is an urgent need for joint action by those states whose interests are ultimately linked to each other. For centuries, Spain has been fighting the same enemies that Germany and Italy are forced to fight today... The Jewish International Democracy that rules these states will not forgive us for pursuing a course of securing a secure future for our peoples in accordance with basic principles determined by the people themselves, and not imposed on them by capital ... If Germany and Italy lose this war, then no future for a truly independent, national Spain

impossible..."

And then the Fuhrer again invited Spain to the Tripartite Pact, proposed an operation to capture Gibraltar, promised grain support and warned:

"I am convinced that in war time is one of the most important factors. The months gone by can no longer be returned. back".

Franco answered only on February 26, although he assured "dear Fuhrer" in that he sought to answer "as soon as possible" ...

"I think, just like you," **wrote the caudillo**, "that history itself has inextricably united us with you and with the Duce ... I also share your opinion that the location of Spain on both sides of the Strait forces us to be extremely hostile towards England who seeks to retain control over him..."

So, Franco immediately took the bull by the horns, and in the same letter he fully recognized the importance of the problem. However, he rightly remarked:

"I would like to draw Your Excellency's attention to the following circumstance: the closure of the Strait of Gibraltar is not only a prerequisite for the immediate improvement of Italy's situation, but also, perhaps, a prerequisite for the end of the war. However, for the closure of the Strait of Gibraltar to be decisive, the Suez Canal must also be closed at the same time. If this does not happen, then we, that is, those who will make an actual contribution to our military operation, will have to sincerely say that Spain in such an indefinitely protracted war will be placed in extremely difficult conditions ... "

Having begun for health, the Fuhrer's addressee could not resist on this note and assured that Spain's imminent entry into the war was out of the question. He even reproached the Fuhrer for:

"on the issue of food supplies Germany to
Lately, she hasn't kept her promises..."

At the end, however, it said:

"I want ... to declare that I firmly stand on your side, that I am completely at your disposal, that I feel my unity with you in your historical destiny ... I do not need any confirmation of my faith in the triumph of your cause."

Nevertheless, the caudillo did not allow himself to be drawn into the war. And, frankly, in essence, Franco was right. England could make his life very difficult if he intended to make life difficult for her. And it wasn't even in England that the United States loomed ahead, from island Atlantic bases preparing to jump into the Old World from that New World, from which the United States expelled Spain at the turn of the 19th and 20th centuries. As for Suez, the caudillo also wrote

everything correctly - Suez guarded Gibraltar much more reliably than a three-and-a-half-meter moat, although it was located at a distance of three and a half thousand kilometers from the famous rock. Therefore, just during the first visit of Molotov to Berlin - November 12, 1940 - Directive No. 18 appeared in the Reich on the plans "Felix" and "Isabella".

The second concerned Portugal and was very doubtful. The implementation of the first would give the Reich Gibraltar.

WHEN the Fuhrer, in October 1940, after meeting with Petain and Laval in Montoire, met with Franco and his Foreign Minister Seranno Sunyer at the border in Endai, the caudillo yulil (the Fuhrer did not know that Canaris set him up against an alliance with the Reich). These sentiments of Franco were also reflected in a letter to Hitler dated February 26, 1941. And now the situation has changed. Firstly,

it turned out to be more and more

profitable for the "axis" at the opposite end of the Mediterranean from Spain - in the Levant and beyond. Together with the Germans, the "Vichy" governor Dentz kept Syria and Lebanon, and the Germans, with the help of the Russians, got Iraq as a de facto ally.

Secondly, the Fuhrer's final rejection of the policy of force in relation to the Russians gave the Reich huge accumulated reserves, breaking the situation at sea and in the air. And the caudillo understood that this gave a good chance of success in a possible Maltese operation. Thirdly, the fall of Tobruk

provided Rommel and the troops of the Duce with an advantageous springboard for an offensive towards that very Suez, which, in the reasonable opinion of the caudillo, could become the first key to the whole war (the second was Malta, and the third was Gibraltar).

Fourth and most important, the Fuhrer was now firmly friends with Russia, and Stalin was ready to help the caudillo with the grain that the Reich could not supply to the starving Spaniards. The

delicacy of the moment consisted, however, in the fact that Moscow's possible assistance to Francoist Spain painfully hurt the feelings of many friends of the USSR. Former fighters of the international brigades were scattered all over the world, Spanish anti-fascist republicans were scattered all over the world, and there were especially many of them just in Soviet Russia - led by the General Secretary of the Spanish Communist Party, José Díaz. Was in Moscow and Pasionaria - Dolores Ibarruri. And with her and Jose Diaz,

Stalin had a difficult conversation. Stalin decided to spend it in a homely setting - in Kuntsevo. "Comrades Diaz and Ibarruri," he addressed the Spanish communist leaders after the five of them had already settled down in the fireplace room with Molotov and Zhdanov. "Summer is ending, and we will end this summer peacefully... And we will end with a wonderful harvest... And now there is almost famine in Spain. Ibarruri's eyes twinkled. A few years ago, she said: "Better to die standing

than to live on your knees!" And Stalin remembered this... Yes, it was said beautifully. But ordinary people cannot live on their knees, because you cannot sow grain on your knees, you cannot go out and harvest the ripened grain... The people always live on their feet, but often with a bent back and bent shoulders.

This is what Stalin told the

Spaniards. "You understand, comrades," he added, "we are now obliged to transfer the entire center of the struggle against America. The enemy of America's capital is our friend. Armaments are in full swing in the United States, and this

means that the capitalists will soon have a huge armed force. Hitler and Mussolini introduce state capitalism, and this is the penultimate step towards socialism. The last step is the rejection of private property ... And one can imagine such a development of the world when they take this step as well. Neither Churchill nor Roosevelt will ever take this step...

— What follows from this, Comrade Stalin, for us, the Communists of Spain? Pasionaria asked sharply. - We fought against Hitler and Mussolini, and now the Soviet Union honors them as guests and almost allies. What should we do?

“To be communists, Comrade Ibarruri,” Stalin replied calmly. - And more specifically? “Vladimir

Ilyich taught us,” Stalin began without answering directly, “that there are compromises and there are compromises ... You can bloc with the Octobrists and Cadets against the monarchists, with the Socialist-Revolutionaries against the Cadets and with the Mensheviks against the Socialist-Revolutionaries ... But you must never forget in the name of what you are you compromise. Pasionaria's eyes flashed again: "In the name of what is the Soviet Union

compromising with the Nazis?" And then, instead of

Stalin, Zhdanov softly answered her: “In the name of the working people, comrade Pasionaria ... And in the name of the final victory of Labor over Capital.”

He smiled through his short mustache and explained: "It's not easy to understand and accept, but being a communist does not mean being ready to die beautifully." To be a communist means to be ready to live intensely in the interests of Labor. Although, - Zhdanov smiled again, - it would be better to live sometimes less stressfully, it's a pity that it doesn't work out ... - So,

comrades, - Stalin summed up. “The war in Europe must be ended before America comes to Europe. Today we cannot overthrow Churchill and the Churchillists by coming to London. But we can already today prepare the conditions for this by striking at Churchill and America in Africa and the East, depriving them of Alexandria, Suez and ... And - Gibraltar, and then - the Atlantic islands. And Spain can be very useful for this.

Ibarruri and Diaz listened silently and frowningly. And Stalin said: "In Spain now it's not Diaz, but Franco. So you have to compromise with Franco. And one more thing, comrades... In Spain, apart from Franco, there are also Spaniards. And they are starving. And we can share bread with them... And they will remember that Russia helped them.

Diaz and Pasionaria went back to Moscow with sad thoughts. But they could not disagree with Stalin. Stalin was right. And soon, through Ribbentrop, Molotov informed Sunier that the

USSR was ready to discuss with Spain the issue of allocating to it on extremely favorable terms one hundred thousand tons of grain promised by Franco Hitler, but never delivered by the Reich. In addition, Moscow sent another fifty thousand tons of grain to Spain - this time free of charge. The official announcement of this, broadcast by TASS in early September, produced the effect of an exploding bomb in the world: Moscow helped the caudillos! And it helped not only

with food. Echelons with the same old armored vehicles went to Spain through Europe. The tank factories of Kharkov, Leningrad, and the Urals were already welding and casting the T-34 and KB turrets with

might and main, and it was not a problem to hand over to the Spaniards a couple of hundred tanks we didn't need. Stalin laughed: - Thanks to Tukhachevsky: he ordered so much industry,

that now we can provide all the Fuhrer's allies with this junk.

And in Spain, like a few years ago, flowed from the USSR food and weapons.

On September 24, 1941, an inter-allied conference opened in London. And on the same day, the first stage of Operation Atlantis began - the battle for Malta.

The island of Malta is located in such a way that, from the point of view of the strategy of wars XX century, it is best called "unsinkable aircraft carrier."

However, as a naval base, it was also very important. Malta, located southeast of Sicily, has long blocked the sea routes from Europe to Tunisia through the Strait of Tunis between Sicily and Africa, to Libya and Egypt. And also - to Asia Minor and the Middle East. In the 20th century, Malta also blocked air routes - primarily to Libya and Tunisia. To the northwest of Malta stretches a

short chain of islands: Gozo (Gaudes) with an area of 67 square kilometers, and between it and Malta are two

islets of Comino (Commune) and Comminto. But this is only an insignificant "appendage" to the "flagship". In the VI century BC, the Carthaginians settled here, then - when Carthage was destroyed - the Romans. When Rome also fell, the Vandals, the Ostrogoths, later the Byzantines, and the Arabs appeared in Malta. In 1090, the island was conquered by the Normans, and in 1530, the emperor of the Holy Roman Empire of the German people, Charles V, transferred Malta to the military-monastic order of the St. John, which since then became known as the Order of Malta. The Maltese - like all orders of chivalry in general - were associated with the secret societies of the Power Elite, and the island position gave many advantages. So Malta has become not only a hub of communications, but also the focus of many-way and centuries-old provocations of the Golden Elite against the encroachments of the mob. In 1798, Malta was captured by Napoleon Bonaparte. The future emperor was well aware of the role of Malta as the key to Egypt. However, in 1800 England won this key from him. And since then, she has not let him out of her imperial hands. The area of Malta is 246 square kilometers (approximately 22 by 12 kilometers), and it itself is a limestone plateau with a height of up to 244 meters. The southern and southwestern shores are steep and steep, the northern and eastern ones are low and gentle, with convenient harbors, including the port of the Maltese capital, La Valletta. The average temperature in February is 12, August - 25. Malta is poor in water and vegetation.

Resources too. But the strategy redeemed everything.

The MEDITERRANEAN land theater of operations in its eastern zone on both sides of the sea was controlled by the "Axis" or friendly regimes. On the side of the oceanic Atlantic, North-West Africa belonged to Vichy France: Morocco with the ports of Tangier, Rabat and Casablanca, Senegal with the port of Dakar, and along the Mediterranean African coast - also Morocco (where the possession of Spain was wedged with the port of Ceuta) and to the east of it - Algeria with ports Oran and Algiers, as well as Tunisia with the ports of Bizerte and Sfax. French Tunisia bordered on Italian Libya, where Rommel and the Italian army were stationed.

In 1940, under the guise of the Reich's victories over France, Tangier was captured by Spain, and the rest remained under the control of the government of Marshal Petain in Vichy. In July 1940, the marshal handed over military bases in Morocco and partly in Algeria to the German command, but there were no large German forces there. However, in Algiers, German officers received command posts in the Foreign Legion, in coastal artillery, in the navy and in aviation. And at the insistence of the Fuhrer, the Vichy authorities of Algeria began the construction of the Trans-Sahara railway line from Oran to the Niger River basin. On June 29,

1941, the Germans demanded in an ultimatum from Petain and Admiral Darlan the direct transfer of naval bases in Casablanca, Algiers and Dakar to them. The French obeyed. And the Germans began to build up their naval presence there. The British

fleet in the Mediterranean was based mainly on Alexandria, Gibraltar and La Valletta. In the summer of 1941, it was replenished with cruisers, destroyers and submarines at the expense of formations previously stationed in Iceland and occupied by escort service, now taken over by "neutral" Americans. New aircraft arrived at Malta's airfields, but there were few fighters. An aviation group of **66** bombers and torpedo bombers was formed to attack sea lanes. It also included a tactical novelty - several Wellington-type radar-guided aircraft. The 1st Submarine Flotilla was based on Alexandria, the 8th operated from Gibraltar, and the 10th from Malta. In total, the British had up to 35 boats.

By June 41, the Italians had 7 battleships, 17 heavy and light cruisers, 108 destroyers and 93 submarines against these forces. With naval aviation, they were bad - as, indeed, and the British.

The Italian fleet was not offended by the bases: its formations were stationed in Taranto, in Genoa, Naples, in Sicily - in Messina and Palermo, on the islands of Sardinia, Crete, Rhodes, Dodecanese and in Libyan Tripoli. But now the Germans had

enough aviation. At the beginning of July, the Fuhrer summoned Rommel and held a meeting at the General Staff of the Ground Forces:

- Lord! Cancellation of "Barbarossa" in the most beneficial way to eliminate affects on our opportunities the Mediterranean and African theaters of war before the end of this year. This fall campaign will be codenamed "Atlantis"...

The generals and admirals expressed their consent with all their appearance, and the commander-in-chief Brauchitsch and General Halder looked at each other and nodded to each

other, completely agreeing with the Fuhrer. The staff and military whirlwind of the spring of 1941 on the eve of the Eastern Campaign was replaced by July with the calm confidence of the Wehrmacht in the success of the African campaign. And the reserves were accumulating - since Barbarossa did not start, it became possible to further increase the production of aircraft of all types and submarines. So, to strengthen the blockade of Malta and Egypt.

The Fuhrer, noting this, then said:

"Gentlemen! We had enough rest in this, forty-first year... The summer campaign did not bring us significant victories and results, but it was a time of further accumulation of strength and preparation of starting positions. Now we are ready, and a warm autumn will soon come to the Mediterranean. And the autumn campaign compensates for all the calm summer..."

The Führer was looking forward to success and soon after this meeting ordered the formation of three new army groups. Army Group Africa was to be commanded by 50-year-old Erwin Rommel, Army Group Middle East by 50-year-old Walter Model, and Task Force Anatolia by 53-year-old Heinz Guderian.

The situation was, however, still difficult. Even during the battles for Greece - in the spring of the 41st, at the end of March, the squadron of Admiral Cunningham in the Crete region badly battered the Italians, heavily damaging the battleship Vittorio Veneto and literally in a few minutes shooting the Italian cruisers "Pola" with the artillery of the main caliber of the battleships, "Zara" and "Fiume". A month earlier, guarding the Libyan convoys, the Italian cruiser Diaz was lost. True, shortly before Cunningham's success, Italian torpedo boats in the same zone disabled a number of British

transports and the heavy cruiser York (on May 19 and 20, German aircraft finally finished it off). On May 22, 1941, in view of Crete, German bombers sank the English light cruisers Gloucester and Fiji, and on May 31, west of Alexandria, the British air defense cruiser

Calcutta. On July 24, German and Italian aircraft attacked an English convoy en route from Gibraltar to Malta, sinking a destroyer.

So, the struggle went on with varying success. But it was all a prelude. The most important base of the Britons - Malta continued to be a formidable bastion, advanced right into the center of events. The main "melody" sounded on

September 24, when the air squadrons of the 2nd Kesselring Fleet hit La Valletta and the airfields of Malta. Even before that, German torpedo boats had successfully mined the approaches to La Valette. Rommel always insisted that Malta must be taken under any circumstances. And now he mastered it in a manner quick and sure. But it was not tanks or guns that were decisive here, but bomber, fighter, aviation:

transport

landing...

And all this Rommel had, finally, plenty. In the summer, the Libyan climate was deadly for aviation. Almost from the strip of sea beaches, a desert scorched by the sun began without any more or less suitable landmarks. The pilots clung to each half-withered tree with their eyes, immediately marking it on flight maps.

Strong sand tornadoes, locally called "hibli", raised clouds of sand and dust to a height of up to three kilometers. The heat in the cockpits reached seventy degrees.

Now, in the autumn, it was a little easier, and Rommel was sincerely grateful to the Luftwaffe for their contribution to the fight for Malta. He always knew how to maintain direct live communication with the troops and earned the respect of both Germans and Italians. With aviator Kesselring, he spoke the same language - both perfectly understood the importance of aviation in supporting ground forces. Like Rommel, Kesselring flew a lot in parts, and his headquarters plane was already shot down twice. Sea and air battles were played out in

the area of the "Island of St. John", and ground battles were fought on the island itself. The British tried to bring up reserves here - they desperately did not want to give up the island. But Malta by the beginning of October was completely occupied. And Luftwaffe and naval aircraft were now based on it.

axle connections. At

the same time, Rommel's troops occupied Tunisia.

* * *

In the XX CENTURY, naval victories are far from always won by sailors - the Bismarck was killed under the blows of British winged torpedo bombers. However, "clean" sailors also won at sea, although more and more often these victories were achieved not under the pennants of warships fluttering in the wind, but from under the water. In the autumn of

1941, German submarines distinguished themselves in the Mediterranean. First, Lieutenant Commander Guggenberger, 25 miles from Gibraltar, sank the English aircraft carrier Ark Royal, and soon Lieutenant Commander von Tizenhausen sent the battleship Barham to the bottom near Es Saloum. Then the British also lost the light cruiser Galatea, and three crews of Italian double "human torpedoes" entered the harbor of Alexandria and blew up the battleships Queen Elizabeth and Valiant.

On top of all the British troubles in the minefield near Tripoli, the cruising detachment "K" of two cruisers and two destroyers was lost. IN

As a result, only three cruisers remained combat-ready for the British. The naval superiority of the "Axis" finally became overwhelming, and the communications of the new Army Group "Africa" were no longer threatened by virtually anything. The approaches to Suez were not yet free. But the fast route to Egypt was

open. Immediately after the occupation of Malta, Guderian's Anatolia Task Force conducted the second stage of Operation Atlantis, Operation Alexander, to capture Cyprus. The old island, annexed by England from Turkey in 1914, was out of the way for a long time in this war. Located right next to neutral Turkey, Cyprus turned out to be protected by this "neutrality on all four sides". None of the parties wanted to fight at the side of the Turks and introduce them into

temptation. Now the Turks were presented by Berlin with a fact: either they freely allow Guderian's tank divisions to cross the Sea of Marmara to the Anatolian Highlands and quickly reach Syria through mountain highways and railways, or ... Or Guderian will have to break through there by force. Discussing the plan of the operation,

Hitler said: "Gentlemen! Once Cyprus was owned by the Persians, but the great Alexander expelled them from there. Today we have to repeat this act of Alexander. Let's call our plan after him! Moreover, Alexander also conquered Asia Minor ... But Guderian did not have to fight - the

Turks surrendered without a fight, realizing that London was not up to them, and Moscow was calm about Berlin's position. In addition, it was only about the transit of troops, and not about the occupation of the country, and Turkey was promised at the end of the war to return the island under its jurisdiction, subject to ensuring the autonomy of the Greek Cypriots. The Duce grumbled about this, but events were going so brilliantly, creating brilliant prospects, that little things like Cyprus could have been sacrificed. Italy and so should have received a lot. Guderian reached Syria and

from there, in cooperation with Kesselring and the Italians, air of Rhodes, landed troops on squadrons operating from the island poorly defended Cyprus. He quickly "saddled" the island and this ensured the smooth transfer of the Army Group "Middle East" to Syria.

The model went there by land again through Turkey and by sea through Cyprus.

* * *

On October 4, 1941, the British military command approved a plan for an urgent offensive in North Africa - the plan for Operation Crusader. The British had more than a thousand tanks, much inferior to the German ones, about one and a half thousand aircraft and up to one and a half thousand guns. But their main strike force - the 8th Army - was ethnically diverse. And the inhabitants of the British dominions already doubted whether it was such a great honor to lay down their lives for the Roosevelt-Churchill cause ... The British offensive was planned at first for November 18, but the situation forced them to postpone the deadline

a month earlier. However, already on October 6, Rommel began *his* offensive! And immediately broke through the fortifications of the British to the operational space. There was nothing surprising in that - with a triple superiority in manpower, he had a one and a half advantage in tanks and aircraft and a double advantage in guns.

Rommel's troops now included quite a few fully combat-ready Italian divisions: tank Ariete and Littorio, armed with Soviet equipment, infantry Brescia, Bologna and Pavia, motorized Trieste, parachute Folgore, elite division "Young Fascists" The Fuhrer additionally allocated the SS Leibstandarte "Adolf Hitler" for the offensive, as well as the Panzer Division "Hermann Goering". A day later, the Middle East Model Army Group launched an offensive from the Beirut region in two diverging directions. Her "Levant" task force of the forty-four-year-old General of the

Panzer Forces, Baron Hasso von Manteuffel, had the task of reaching Port Said on Suez.

under command

Herman Goth's 17th Army was to cross the Arabian Peninsula and reach El Kuwait, blocking the ports of the Persian Gulf and hanging over Saudi Arabia. Rommel, on the other hand, was moving swiftly along the path to Alexandria - to El Alamein.

Churchill himself urgently flew to Cairo. He appointed General Montgomery as commander of the 8th Army. The lean "Monty" enjoyed authority in the troops, but he was far from Rommel in all respects. However, it was no longer a matter of personalities - even such bright ones as Rommel. Everything was decided by the material advantage that the Wehrmacht received, which was not drawn into the meat grinder of Barbarossa. Rommel had enough soldiers, equipment, and fuel ...

And even over the ancient Egyptian desert, together with the Luftwaffe attack aircraft, they ironed the autumn air of an unusual look - as if humpbacked, pointed-nosed aircraft with not very high speed, but with great survivability. They supported Rommel's forward units better than tanks and were in fact "flying tanks". These were the new Soviet Ilyushin Il-2 attack aircraft, sent by Gromov, in agreement with Goering, for military trials. The IL-2 regiment was led by Colonel Polbin - young, hot and prudent at the same time. The idea arose from Stalin himself, but he himself hesitated for a long time before giving the

green light to this risky step. But in the end, after discussion with all interested parties, I decided. "How, Comrade Ilyushin," he asked the designer, "how useful will this be for you?" - Honestly, Comrade Stalin, it will be useful,
of course,

huge ... -

And you, Mikhail Mikhailovich, what do you say? Stalin turned to Gromov.

The Commander-in-Chief of the Air Force, as always, was calm: - The idea is sensible, but our guys should fly there. AND - together with technicians... It is impossible to release this novelty into the wrong hands.

Stalin walked around the office, weighed "for" and "against" ... Then turned to Molotov and Vyshinsky: "Won't

we give the British a pretext for war ahead of time?" Vyshinsky smiled: "They're not up

to it now, firstly... And secondly, the allegedly American 'volunteers' are bombing the Reich from the 'flying fortresses' placed in England... Why shouldn't we have similar 'volunteers'?"

"Good," Stalin decided. - But we need to agree with the Germans on one thing ...

We managed to agree, and the Germans received the consent of Marshal Antonescu to allow the Russians to put Romanian identification marks on their planes. And now the attack aircraft of "Colonel Polbinescu" terrified the English infantry and tanks and admired the soldiers of Rommel.

Near El Alamein, the deputy commander of Army Group Africa, General Stumme, a longtime ally of Rommel, died. But El Alamein itself was taken the day after his death. And along the Arabian Gulf, a steel and motorized avalanche of troops moved towards Alexandria. Abdallah... Burg Abu Sir and

Burg Abu Arab... El Di Heidla and El Mex... And here are the shores of Lake Maryut... A narrow strip of land separates it from the sea and becomes the last defensive line before Alexandria. On the horizon, pillars of smoke are already clearly visible from shelling it from the sea and from bombing from the air ...

Tanks flow around the lake and lakeside swamps from the south - in the direction of Kafr ed-Dauwar. Now he is busy, and the columns turn sharply to the left - again to the lake and further - to Alexandria. Lake Idku remains to the right, and along the coast - Abukir and further - a little deeper - Rosetta ... This is

already the beginning of the

Nile Delta. Once in the Gulf of Aboukir, Admiral Nelson buried the Egyptian plans of Bonaparte ... Once, near Rosetta, Bonaparte's sappers removed a stone from under the drifts of sand, covered with hieroglyphs and text in two more languages. This allowed Champollion to decipher the secrets of the Egypt of the pharaohs. Now mobile groups of German paratroopers were spreading along the Nile Delta, and the bulk of the troops were busy encircling and encircling again. Alexandria was blockaded by sea and air, in Cairo King Farouk led an anti-English uprising, and Model drove the British out of Transjordan. Meanwhile, the Levant task force of Hasso von Manteuffel was moving towards Egypt - towards Rommel. It is good to fight

when there is something to fight with and when there are almost no those with whom to fight! Manteuffel's tanks rushed across the sands of Sinai to El Kantara, which was already standing on the Suez Canal. Sweaty tankes

they looked for icons of desert wells on the maps, and these icons became the immediate goal of moving forward. The well of Bir-

Gameyl... The wells of Bir-el-Mageibra, Bir-el-Ghafir, Bir-el-Duweydara... The distance from the latter to the canal is within easy reach, only two tens of kilometers! From El-Kantara, part of the

advanced group crossed the canal and moved along the road along its left bank to Port Said. The other part remained on the right bank and began to move down - to the Great Salt Lake and further - to Suez and the Gulf of Suez.

Herman Goth at this time through the desert, along the oil pipeline from Bahrain to Haifa, went to Kuwait, Dammam and Qatar. Guderian reinforced the rear by transferring part of his forces to Iraq. This is how

the Egyptian campaign went. In

Abyssinia and the Horn of Africa, the British units were blocked on distant lines and surrendered by the end of October. The African and Middle Eastern fronts were eliminated. England and America were deprived of both Arab oil and the most important base of operations. There was a real threat to India ... But these

were the tasks of tomorrow.

WHILE the time has come to solve the problem of Gibraltar ... Operation Atlantis was entering its final phase of the Felix 2 plan.

Finally, the Fuhrer decided to pull out the Gibraltar "splinter" back in July. Forces were allocated for this, but so far nothing has been agreed with the caudillo. There was political preparation with the help of Moscow, and therefore all attention was occupied by Malta and Egypt. And only when Rommel and Model clamped Montgomery in "pincers" did the Fuhrer invite Franco to Berlin.

The caudillo did not dare to refuse, and was it worth it now to refuse? Moscow and Berlin together constituted a formidable force! But there were also Rome and Tokyo, and in the future - almost the entire non-Anglo-Saxon world. So Franco arrived and immediately scattered in congratulations.

Hitler was gracious but brief. "Dear caudillo," he said. - In February, you wrote to me that in order to firmly master Gibraltar, it is necessary to solve the problem of Suez ... Now it is a matter of a few days. The German army has long developed a plan for our possible joint actions, but now everything is being simplified ... The Fuhrer looked at Goering, who was sitting next to him, and suggested: - Mr.

Reichsmarschall, the idea belongs to you, and I suggest that you state it. Goering did not force himself to beg and began: - In its logical completeness, the idea also involves the

neutralization of Portugal, including the occupation of Madeira, the Cape Verde Islands and the Azores ... For this we intend to allocate two landing corps ... We have already concentrated directly against Gibraltar ... Franco is not endured: — Already? The Fuhrer himself reassured him: - Just because the time factor is extremely important. But in reality, we will act only with your consent, caudillo ... Franco stopped rubbing his hands nervously and prepared to listen

further.

"So," Goering continued, "we are allocating for the first strike up to a thousand 88-mm anti-aircraft guns, 150-mm guns and howitzers, as well as 210-mm mortars with a new Reading projectile capable of penetrating three meters of concrete. In addition - heavy self-propelled siege mortars "Karl". And yet - up to a hundred bombers in the second "wave" of impact ... Franco again began to nervously rub his hands, Goering finished: - We bring up to thirty echelons of shells from France through Malaga and plow every square meter of usable area of this damn rock ... I think that's enough . From the sea we block

British with Italians. - And we? Franco asked. - At this stage, you are only declaring your consent to lease of this territory to Germany.

Before his trip to Berlin, Franco assumed something similar. In the winter and spring of this year, he really counted on the fact that good relations between Russia and Germany would not last long. If Germany would get involved in a war with Russia and achieve a quick victory, that would be good. If she got stuck in Russia, that would also be nice. Franco would then have had a good chance of sitting out behind the Pyrenees from all European troubles until clearer times. But Hitler and the Duce chose the path of partnership with Russia, and now even the caudillo himself received help from Stalin through the mediation of Hitler ... So, everything in the world turned either upside down, or upside down. But the old order of things, the centuries-old balance of power, seemed to be irretrievably going to hell. And, it seems, it was time for Spain to decide. Caudillo sighed and asked, "My dear Fuhrer!" When do you plan to start your operation? Hitler looked at Goering. Göring looked heavily at the caudillo

and replied: "October 13th. - You mean in a week? - Yes ... This is the period we need to deliver our

"Carls" from the French border to La Linea by rail. Caudillo sighed again: - Well, well, I will pray for our common success ... Spain is ready to let your troops and your "carls" through.

LA LINEA is a Spanish town in front of the English zone Gibraltar. And the "carls" ...

About the "carls" must be said separately. Huge 600-mm "mastodons" with a combat weight of 126 tons were developed in 1940 by Rheinmetall. Made in the amount of six copies, they all had proper names: "Adam", "Eve", "Thor", "Odin", "Loki" and "Siv". The first two reminded of the Bible, the rest were taken from

Scandinavian mythology (Odin is the supreme god, the golden-haired Siv is the wife of Thor the Thunderer, whose insidious god Loki cut off a wonderful strand of

hair). For short distances, these "biblical-divine" super-mortars could move independently thanks to self-propelled tracked carriages. They were transported over long distances on special 10-axle railway platforms. The concrete-piercing projectile had a mass of 2170

kilograms, flew four and a half kilometers and pierced a concrete slab two and a half meters thick or armored - 45 centimeters. The high-explosive projectile weighed 1700 kilograms and flew almost seven kilometers.

On October 13, all this really almost divine force fell upon the Rock of Gibraltar.

And could she resist them?

AND FOR A GOOD tens of thousands of kilometers from Cape Europe - on Japanese islands - important events also took place.

Japan is rich in smart and hardworking people, but not very rich in resources. At the same time, its industrial development acquired considerable scope. There were two ways out: either expanding economic ties with continental neighbors - the USSR and China - and with the Pacific countries, or ... Or subordinating

them to oneself by force. The second path is always a slippery path. Especially when you are seriously dependent on external supplies of strategic materials. But the economic path to Asia was blocked for Japan by America and England. They have long occupied key points and key positions in the economy in the Pacific Ocean and did not want to make room for the sake of Japan - no matter how fair it was - they did not want to. In

addition, there was the vast Dutch Indies, where, for example, up to 8 million tons of oil was produced (against Japan's annual requirement of 5 million tons, of which it itself produced only a tenth). On October 25, 1940, the Japanese Cabinet adopted the "Program for the Economic Development of the Dutch Indies". She was

beneficial to the Indonesians, but could not please the Dutch in the distant Netherlands.

Japan was more and more actively taking root in French Indochina, but in addition to the administration of the Vichy government associated with the Reich, General de Gaulle, associated with the

Anglo-Saxons, also had weight there. Many in Japan wanted to negotiate with everyone peacefully. On the other hand, not all Anglo-Saxons were happy to have Japan as a direct military adversary. At the end of November 1940, two influential Yankee priests, Drout and Walsh, arrived in Japan for secret negotiations with Igawa Tadao, head of the main treasury of the industrial union. However, Igawa and his holy guests were only intermediate links in the chain. It ended with Prime Minister Konoe on one end and President Roosevelt on the other. And the negotiations in Tokyo gave way to negotiations in Washington, where Igawa had already arrived. On

February 11, 1941, the new Japanese ambassador, Admiral Kichisaburo Nomura, who was personally acquainted with Roosevelt, also arrived there. Three months later, on May 12, 1941, Nomura delivered to US Secretary of State Cordell Hull a memorandum titled "Japanese-USA Understanding Project." On June 21, Cordell Hull delivered a response memorandum to Nomura titled "The US-Japan Understanding Project."

Despite the almost identical names, the essence of the two documents was exactly the opposite: the Japanese insisted on the need for important changes, and the Yankees insisted on maintaining the status quo that was

beneficial to them. Developments in Europe did not relieve tension in the Pacific. The Japanese behaved more and more aggressively, and the Yankees could not stop them from doing this. However, on August 1, 1941, the Americans assumed command of the Philippine army and

increased their support for Chiang Kai-shek. Peaceful relations with Japan and the British did not go well. Through English Burma, along a narrow, meandering, like a huge endless dragon, mountain road, laid along the cut tops of the mountains, supplies again went from English India to Chiang Kai-shek. And the Fuhrer seduced the Japanese with Singapore.

The Japanese hesitated. But it was also necessary to take into account the factor

of the USSR. And - the new relationship between

Hitler and Stalin. On September 6, 1941, Konoe invited US Ambassador Gru to his place and announced his intention to meet Roosevelt in person. However, on October 2, Nomura was informed by Hull that the idea was

rejected. The Japanese hesitated, and the next stage of confusion and vacillation in the Japanese leadership ended on October 16, 1941, when Konoe's cabinet resigned. On October 18, the Tojo cabinet was formed, and on November 5, the Imperial Conference of Japan decided to start military operations against the USA, England and the Dutch Indies in early December. But so far, a lull has been established not only in Europe, but also in

Southeast Asia. There was a month left until the end of 1941. And Stalin in Moscow said to

Molotov, Zhdanov and Tevosyan gathered in his office: "Well, here you are, comrades! A year has almost passed, and it has lived well ...



And it was! Russia in the peaceful year of 1941 has greatly improved in all respects! And a rich harvest made it possible to improve not only the internal situation, but also the external one. The Red Army also added a lot this year. The estimated need of the Red Army in tanks was previously determined at 16,600 new combat vehicles. By the end of 1941, tank factories supplied about a third of this figure to the troops. By the summer of the 42nd, it was supposed to grow to at least ten thousand. And on the drawing boards of the designers of the tank design bureau of Leonid Dukhov, the tank "IS" - "Joseph Stalin" was already overgrown with powerful armor. Nobody in the world had anything like it even in the drawings! The total number of new aircraft in the Air

Force also grew rapidly, and military pilots massively mastered them. The basis of aviation has already been formed by the DB-Zf long-range bomber, renamed Il-4, the Soviet "flying fortress" Pe-8 and its younger

bomber "brother" - Pe-2, Il-2 attack aircraft, Yakovlev, Lavochkin, Sukhoi, Mikoyan and Gurevich fighters ...

Surpluses of quite combat-ready, but obsolete military equipment were formed in the country. And now it was possible to use these surpluses for foreign policy purposes - even many in the world would not refuse old Russian tanks and aircraft ... It was possible to strengthen - just in case - the Far East. The transfer of tanks and aircraft began to the new Siberian and Far Eastern garrisons. Fifty torpedo boats and two dozen Malyutka submarines went by rail to Vladivostok.

Stalin personally received the Japanese ambassador Tatekawa Yoshitsugu and reassured him:

"Mr. Lieutenant General," he addressed Yoshitsugu deliberately by rank, "you are a military man and you understand that the best way to ensure peace is to be ready for war ... We concluded a pact with Japan, and after that we took such a decisive step as the entry of Russia to the Fourth Union. And we do not intend to fight with you, to threaten you with weapons, and we never will.

Yoshitsuga listened with an imperturbable expression on his face, although he had many questions for Stalin. And he, as if guessing them, said: - You and I have many

serious disagreements, but all of them can and should be resolved peacefully. And we will solve them peacefully, but what to do - so far the world respects weapons. And we want to be respected everywhere ... Yoshitsuga touched his cheek - nervous tension demanded

out, but said nothing. -

And one more thing, Mr. Lieutenant General! The Pacific Ocean is restless... You may have a conflict with America, and not only with it, but also with England. Now it is difficult to guess, but, - Stalin raised his voice, - it is possible that the Soviet Union will help Japan in solving its military problems. And for this, we need to have serious reserves in advance closer to the theater of possible military operations ... It is possible that we will transfer part of our Far Eastern equipment to you, if the need arises. And I ask you to convey this to your government.

* * *

YES, THE COUNTRY has changed, as has the world around it. In November 1941, the Anti-Comintern Pact expired. And on November 25, representatives of Germany, Italy, Japan, Hungary, Manchukuo and Spain signed a joint protocol in Berlin to terminate it. The world has really changed.

Chapter 16

The world was changing, and politics was becoming more and more interesting not only for politicians and the general public, but even for movie stars. The famous Mary Pickford - the legend of silent cinema - has long been a millionaire and not so much starred as bathed in the rays of enduring glory. However, she sometimes could not avoid the topic of the day ... In the

world of Hollywood, among its especially prosperous, that is, production, part, there have always been more Jews than non-Jews. Was a Jew and Mary's producer - Samuel Goldwyn (Samuel Goldfish), a native of Russian Warsaw. And the full-blooded American Mary (her real name was Gladys Louise Smith) called him Shylock behind his back. This Shakespearean hero, as you know, demanded a pound of living human meat in payment of a debt.

One day, forgetting that her friend, actress Carmel Myers, is the daughter of a rabbi, Mary said: "Hitler does not like Jews.

And he does it right! Greedy Jews bought German property cheaply after the First World War. Now let them pay the price... - For what? Carmel exploded. - And for greed! You'll see, if the Germans lose this war again, then the Jewish synclite will repeat its plot against them and again tear off three skins from them ... So I understand Hitler.

"I will tell you only one thing," the rabbi's daughter pursed her lips in an offended tone, "you must not forget that, whether we are Jews or non-Jews, we are, first of all, people.



Mary felt ashamed, and immediately after filming she went to the bank and wrote out a check for the construction of a nursing home in Los Angeles.

immigrant Jews. Having shown surprising for a charming American political insight in one case, in another case, in everyday life, she herself became a victim of cunning moral manipulations. And is she the only one? Seeing the truth across the ocean in

the distance, Pickford

did not see, nor was she able to see, that the "greedy Jews" and their Anglo-Saxon brethren in the Golden International had almost completed plotting against her own homeland. That they have nearly dragged the American people into the war. And they do it in order to buy up the property of the Germans again at a low price at the end of a new war, victorious for the Golden Cosmopolitans. The Germans interfered with them for a long time and very strongly. After all, even before Germany began to successfully use weapons

against its enemies, it threatened the Anglo-Saxons and cosmopolitans not with a sword, but with a hammer. Threatened since Bismarck! The Germans were not even knocked down by defeat in the First World War, and by the second half of the 30s, the Reich was second only to the United States in terms of industrial output in the world. In terms of pig iron, Germany's share in world production was 22 percent, in steel - 24, in coal - 17 and in engineering - 14. And in the industrial output of

Europe, its share was 32.6 percent.

The share of England is 23.7 percent. France -

11.2. At the same time, the Golden Elite had to take into account the rapid growth of the power of the USSR, which in a number of positions could soon overtake

Germany. And the growth of the power of Japan did not please this Elite. The proportion of Germany's trade with the countries of Latin America increased from 11.5 percent in 1933 to 17.1 percent in the year 1938. More than a percent per year! Another ten years, and this share could increase to a quarter, or even to a third! The Yankees had something to worry about even without

But something by that time would have accounted for Russia. Yes, and Japan. But what about the colonial trade? After all, the Germans were already getting there. Yes, and the Japanese ... Could - over time - to infiltrate the colonies and Russians.

What would then become of the Monroe Doctrine? From December 2, 1823, she argued that the territories in the Western Hemisphere should not be considered "as an object for future colonization by any European power", and in fact proclaimed: "America is only for the Yankees." And now it could turn out that not only America would have the right to "open doors" to the economies of other countries. It could turn out so that other countries will acquire the right to a world of **honestly** open doors - for everyone around the world.

Y-

yes... In economic terms, the Third Reich grew into the enemy of the Golden International No. 1, therefore, in the summer of 1938, a joint Committee appeared in the United States to carry out countermeasures to counter German political and economic expansion into Latin America. The Committee included representatives of the State Department, military and business circles. But even within

the States themselves, the competition of German exports was so serious that in March 1939 the United States introduced prohibitive, in fact, tariffs on German goods. Actually, this was a declaration by the United States of preventive economic war against Germany. And Senator Reynolds has been telling Congress that this war threatens to be the greatest war America has ever fought. Greatest! Moreover, on the part

of the United

States, it was preventive. And, as you know, a real, bloody war is just a continuation of politics (and, above all, economic politics) by other means. Knowing this, one could only shrug one's shoulders at Roosevelt's ranting about "Nazi warmongers of the world war." The war, of course, was prepared in the United States. And its timely unleashing with the transition to the "hot" phase was for the Yankees a matter of unrighteous life or natural death - if we mean the death of the United States as the headquarters of the World Golden Elite, a synonym for World Evil. A great American once wrote:

"I don't know, for worse or for better, but we continue to teach Europe ... Nobody invited us to be mentors, we

imposed themselves. After all, we are Anglo-Saxons. Last winter, at a banquet in a club called the Far Ends of the Earth, the chairman, a high-ranking retired military man, proclaimed in a loud voice and with great enthusiasm: "We are Anglo-Saxons, and when an Anglo-Saxon needs something, he goes and takes it. " The banquet was attended by at

least seventy-five civilians and twenty-five army and navy officers. It must have been at least two minutes before they exhausted their enthusiasm for this magnificent declaration. The inspired prophet himself ... stood all this time, beaming with a smile of happiness ... If we translate this outstanding declaration (and the feelings

expressed in it) into simple human language, it will sound something like this: "We, the British and Americans, are thieves, robbers and pirates, which we are proud of." Of all the English and Americans present, there was not one who would have had the civil

courage to rise up and say that he was ashamed that he was an Anglo-Saxon, that he was ashamed of a civilized society, since it suffers Anglo-Saxons in its ranks, this shame of the human race.

Yes, here the role of America, England and the Anglo-Saxons in the matter of "ensuring" the freedom of peoples was assessed correctly. And then the following was said:

"It was a spectacle worthy of attention - this childishly direct, sincere, selfless delight over the fetid maxim of the prophet in an officer's uniform. It smacked of self-disclosure: did not the secret impulses of our national soul pour out here under the unexpected blow of chance? The most influential groups of our society were represented at the meeting, those who stand at the levers that set our national civilization in motion, give it

life: lawyers, bankers, merchants, manufacturers, journalists, politicians, officers of the army and navy. All of them were here. It was the United States, convened to a banquet and rightfully expressed on behalf of the nation its secret code of morality.

Here is how on October 16, 1906, none other than Mark Twain wrote about the essence of the attitude of the Anglo-Saxons to the desire of other peoples of the Earth ***to live the way they want***, that is , ***freely and independently*** .

AND NOW the "sacred" "right" of the Anglo-Saxons to come to any point of the Earth chosen by them and ***take*** a serious threat arose - the Russians and Germans did not want to fight each other! Churchill panicked, Roosevelt panicked, and with them the entire Golden International of World Evil.

In September 1939, a war was unleashed in the name of maintaining the power of this Evil. At first, Poland fell victim to it - and so, however, rotten. Then, in 1940, the turn of rotten France came. But the secret forces were still calm then - for the 41st year they were planning a conflict between Germany and Russia. And here a misfire occurred - instead of the German-Soviet war, 1941 brought the German-Soviet Union. And by the end of this year, the war was almost completely out of secret, supranational control. So far, however, only in Europe. Asia remained. Despite the claims of

Japan, the Yankees and the

British for a long time counted on the fact that they would be able to control the course of events in the Far East. And they did not count here from scratch - Japan fought in China from the second half of the 30s and was in a state of sluggish political conflict with the USSR, not giving up its intention to transfer it to the phase of a military conflict.

Therefore, on July 22, 1939, the then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Arita, and the British Ambassador to Tokyo, Craigie, through an exchange of notes, formalized an agreement that freed the hands of the Japanese armed forces in China. And on July 24, an English-

Japanese Round Table Conference. The Yankees feigned dissatisfaction with this and on July 27 defiantly terminated the 1911 Japanese-American trade treaty. However, American deliveries to Japan after the denunciation of the treaty did not stop, did not decrease, but ... increased. The United States exported up to five million oni of oil to Japan - almost satisfying its annual need. And the share of military materials in US exports to Japan exceeded two-thirds! There was nothing surprising here, however. The British,

going to an agreement with the Japanese, hoped that Japan would become firmly bogged down in a war with China and would not be up to Hong Kong and Singapore. After all, at that time there was no war in Europe yet, Russia and Germany had not yet concluded their first Pact of August 23, 1939, and London still hoped to conclude such a military agreement with the USSR that would pit Russians and Germans.

The Yankees, supplying Japan with strategic materials, counted, in general, on the same thing ... They proceeded from the fact that the longer Japan and China fight, the more they will weaken each other. And then the US will be able to get favorable concessions from Japan. In short, it was an Asian version of playing off the two countries, but in relation to the Chinese and Japanese.

Russians and Japanese, however, the Anglo-Saxons also hoped to play off. Moreover, until April 13, 1941, before the Soviet-Japanese pact, even the Japanese Matsuoka and the Russian Molotov doubted whether it was possible to smooth out the Soviet-Japanese

problems by agreement? So, the Anglo-Saxons, *having come* to Asia long ago, still intended *to take* there as much as they saw fit. But by the end of the 41st year, a misfire could happen in Asia as well. Japan has long been at a crossroads, but now it seems to have chosen its own path. And this was not the path that

would be beneficial to the Anglo-Saxons. 27 May 1939 Italian Naval Attache in Ja G. Giorgis sent a report to Benito Mussolini, where he said:

"The recently adopted grandiose program for the expansion of armaments has the clear purpose, as far as the army is concerned, to bring it into such a state that it can wage war on two fronts, i.e., in China and against Russia."

No one has ever succeeded in a war on two fronts, and therefore, in reality, Japan ventured into only one war - the one that she already waged with China. And now - two years later - it finally became clear that Georgis' forecast had not materialized. Japan signed a neutrality pact with Russia, and now it turned out to be a formal partner in the Quadruple Pact. So far - formal, but after all, even with the same Italy, Japan's relations have not yet gone beyond very modest limits. However, the potential of Japan allowed a lot in the future - the Japanese were an amazing people! And I need to say a few words about this...

* * *

THOSE WHO long called themselves the "Yamato race" and who were called Japanese in the outside world did not always live in the Japanese islands. So in some respects, Japan, like the US, is a country created by immigrants. From China, from Korea, aliens sailed to the islands and gradually pushed back the indigenous population, the Ainu, all the way to the north. At the same time, the indigenous and alien lines mixed, and mixed successfully - the equanimity of the semi-wild natives and the enterprise of energetic colonists from the mainland gave a promising combination. The sea also contributed to the development of the mind, soul, body and national character - after all, the sea is not even one and a half hundred kilometers from anywhere in Japan. Fused over several centuries into a single people, the Yamato race began to live a tense

inner life - civil strife century after century was everyday for it. On the other hand, already at the beginning of the 8th (eighth!) century, Japan adopted the first legislative act on education. A system of public schools arose in the capital and provinces. The fact in the then world history is unprecedented! Contacts with Europeans began in the second half of the 16th century, first with the Spaniards and the Portuguese, and later with the Dutch and the British. The supreme power by that time formally

belonged to the Tenno Emperor, but in fact Japan was ruled by the Tokugawa shogun dynasty of military leaders. Europeans

they tried to destabilize the country, but ended up with the shogun Iemitsu Tokugawa blocking the entry into Japan for foreigners (except the Chinese and Koreans) and the exit of the Japanese from Japan. That is, he completely isolated the country from any foreign influence. Mutually beneficial, but strictly regulated trade relations were maintained only with the Dutch. The "imperial" decree stated:

“For the future, as long as the sun illuminates the world, no one dares to land on the shores of Japan, even if he was an envoy, and this law can never be repealed by anyone on pain of death.”

There is, however, nothing eternal under the moon. The time has come, and the Anglo-Saxons needed Japan - at first as a convenient maritime "station" not far from China. And in 1854, the black ships of Commodore Perry "opened up" Japan for the United States and the outside world. Then England and the USA needed Japan as a counterbalance to Russia that came to the Far East.

Over the centuries of self-isolation, the Japanese nation has accumulated a lot of strength, and now European knowledge has become a catalyst for turbulent social processes. After ten years of turmoil, Japan began to rapidly turn from feudal to bourgeois. And the period 1867-1868 was called "Meiji Isin" ("Meiji Restoration") or "Meiji Revolution". The era of each Japanese emperor gets its own name, and the years of tenno Mutsuhito's reign were predetermined as "enlightened rule" - "Meiji". Coincidentally or not, the name of the era turned out to be accurate, and Japan surprisingly quickly became an important factor in world politics. Moreover, the factor is increasingly independent, from the Anglo-Saxon

independent influence.

And at the same time, she went to the largest maritime powers!

Japan is islands. Huge and smallest ... So the Japanese are doomed to the fate of sailors by geography itself. And already in the 17th century, Japanese sailors reached India and Australia, competing with Spanish and Dutch ships. After the self-isolation of Japan, shipbuilding and shipping fell into decay, but in the new Japan it

developed in a matter of two decades. Back in 1893, the number of Japanese ships was modest - 680 units with a total tonnage of 110 thousand registered tons. And by 1923, the number of ships had grown to 6,169, and the tonnage to 3,361,000 registered tons!

In 1914, Japan accounted for almost 4 percent of the world's tonnage and ranked sixth. And by 1930, Japan had the third in the world - after the United States and England - the merchant fleet, slightly ahead of Germany. At the same time, Japan served all its domestic trade and two-thirds of its external cargo turnover with its own ships. This was a very high rate of self-sufficiency, because even the external cargo turnover of England was served by its own ships at 62.3% (Germany - 42.1% and the USA - 39.2%). But 25% of the total cargo turnover in the ports of China fell on Japanese shipping

companies.

In other important areas, the gap between the Yankees and the Japanese was, however, still very large. So, at the end of the twenties, before the Great Stock Exchange Crash of 1929, the United States smelted 57.3 million tons of steel per year. Japan - 2.3 million. Japan produced 15 times less electrical products than the United States, and "only" 9.7 times less electricity.

But Japan could equalize the chances by calling the peoples of Asia to its side for a common struggle against the Anglo-Saxons. And this could bring success, especially now - when the British suffered such a serious defeat in Arab Africa and in the Arab East of Asia.

And on November 5, 1941, Japan decided to strike at the beginning of December 41 immediately against the USA, England and the Dutch Indies.

The calm in Asia was soon to be replaced by a storm. And the lull in Europe continued. But it could also be fast.
end.

By the end of October 1941, all the military problems of the "axis" in Europe had been resolved, except for one, but the main one. The English Isle still remained under the rule of Churchill, that is, under the rule of

Golden International. And this meant that London still would not go to peace with the "axis".

In early November, Hitler and Mussolini began negotiations in Oberhof with Molotov and the Japanese ambassador to the Reich, General Oshima. In just six months, so many important events took place that even not very impressionable people could have their heads spinning. And yet these huge events did not lead to any decisive historical turning point. All successes did not guarantee that in the end they would not turn into defeat - the whole planet was very powerfully set in motion, and therefore, in general, all the forces on it, both good and evil. In addition, the leading force of World Evil, America, figured in all its might on the world stage. Time still worked rather for her, and therefore time was not to be missed. Procrastination - especially for the Fuhrer - was still like death. This is what he said, sitting in the living room of his mountain residence Oberhof and looking at the guests. - Lord! Let me briefly

outline the state of affairs... The stability of Europe is increasingly ensured by the cooperation

of the participants in the Quadruple Pact. Moreover, this year the Soviet Union helped the Axis countries solve three problems...

Molotov looked at the Fuhrer with interest - how will he evaluate our contribution "in public"?

And the Fuhrer began to list:

- First, the political and material support of Russia helped us close the problems in the Arab East ... Second, large supplies of oil and grain played a crucial role both for Germany and in changing the policy of Spain ... And third, anti-German speeches in Europe were smoothed out thanks to your position, Herr Molotov...

Mussolini impetuously added from his seat: - I completely agree with you, my dear friend! Hitler, on the other hand, was talking about something else, and everything in his speeches came down to one thing: a strategic pause is now unacceptable ... As long as the troops are inspired by victories, while they are in a state of movement from one point to another, while they are easy to climb, it is n

occupy the Atlantic islands and thereby lay the foundation for the success

of the 42nd campaign. "In the coming year, gentlemen, we must solve the problem of the English metropolis, and only then can we consider that we can win the race against the Anglo-Saxons ... The Azores are important for

the blockade of communications, the rest are for the future ... Hitler thought correctly, but spoke about very serious things - the occupation of Madeira, the Azores and the Cape Verde Islands actually meant the occupation of part of Portugal, because all these islands belonged to her. Portugal was neutral, but in favor of the Anglo-Saxons. On the other hand, the Azores were of great strategic importance - they lie just on the transatlantic air and sea routes from America to Europe and vice versa. And the Cape Verde Islands dominate the sea routes to the South Atlantic. For a bomber or amphibious aircraft, they are a seven-hour flight from Brazil. And if Germany received an air base from some of the Latin American countries, then it would be fixed in America - even if it is

South for now! From Lisbon to the Azores archipelago - one and a half thousand kilometers, and to New York from them - four thousand seven hundred. And there is no way around them in the ocean! In addition, the islands could

be used as submarine bases. The Fuhrer's plan was rich, but very

risky - even now. Hitler did not point out that Roosevelt had recently sent special envoy Myron Taylor to Rome. Moreover, Taylor did not go to Rome, to Mussolini, but to the Vatican, to Pope Pius XII. And on the way back he turned to Lisbon, where he met with the Portuguese dictator Salazar. This fact spoke for itself, but the Fuhrer did not want to overly frighten the allies with Uncle Sam's scarecrow. However, that is why

he spoke passionately and tried to be convincing. - Lord! Now our blockade breaker ships are delivering rubber, tin, alloying metals for high-grade steel and valuable mineral oils to the Reich. To the parallel of the Azores, their actions are led by the operational headqua

and further, to Bordeaux, - the command of the group of naval forces "West". - And what are

the losses? Oshima asked. - So far, about seventy percent reach the ports of destination. Teams have orders to sink ships if necessary, but not to allow them to be captured by the enemy. However, when America directly enters the war, the losses can be half or more ... Therefore, we need islands - both for our own security and for blocking the Yankee routes to Europe ... The Fuhrer fell silent. Everyone sat thinking about what they had heard and gathering their

thoughts for an answer.

Oshima was the first to break the silence. -

Japan, obviously, will soon have enough problems in the Pacific ocean, and there is not enough attention or strength for the Atlantic," he remarked.

"Having bound America in the Pacific Ocean, you will already do a lot for the common cause," the Duce immediately declared, without even waiting for the Fuhrer's

reaction. He confirmed the rightness of the Duce with a nod of his head and looked inquiringly at Molotov.

Molotov slowly took off his pince-nez, rubbed it, put it

on... - When do you intend to carry out this operation, Herr Hitler? - As soon as possible, but no later than the beginning of December ... -

And how do you imagine our participation in this? There is a case for the fleet and aviation, and our fleet is still far from the ocean level, Mr. Hitler ... This must be honestly admitted. Yes, and we don't have bombers with such a range ... Molotov spoke a lie, although unwittingly. He simply did not know the

exact characteristics of our outstanding Pe-8 high-speed bomber with a range of four thousand kilometers - just to the Azores and back. In addition, already then there was refueling of aircraft in the air.

Hitler didn't know about the Pe-8 either and nervously asked only one thing: "But do you agree with the very idea of not wasting time?" And then he

added: - And I would also like, Herr Molotov, that Russia urgently supply us with up to ten thousand tons of aviation gasoline to ensure this operation. Africa was not easy for the Luftwaffe, and such

help would be timely and valuable for us ... Molotov, according to his habit, does not cut off immediately, but at least a dozen times to measure, shook

shoulders and replied:

- It's up to you to carry out the operation, Herr Hitler... If you are not embarrassed by friction with Portugal, then the plan itself will probably not cause any objections from us. Although finally it is necessary to decide here, as it seems to me, the military. And as for gasoline - you need to think about it ... - When will you

be able to give an answer? - If I send

a cipher to Moscow today, then perhaps the answer will be tomorrow or in a day or two ... - I would ask you, Herr Molotov, not to use

the telegraph services, but to discuss this issue with Mr. Stalin personally. I can be patient for a few days... As for the problems with the Portuguese, I think there is nothing to worry about. Salazar is cautious and cunning, but I am sure that he will limit himself to protests ...

Molotov went back the same day, and a day later he was already reporting the news to Stalin.

He listened, smoked his pipe, walked around, then said: - And the rose fell on the paw of Azor ... - Which

Azor? Molotov did not understand. - There is

such a joke ... A phrase that is read this way and that the same...

Stalin wrote what he said on a piece of paper, handed it to Molotov and offered:

- Read from the end ...

Molotov read, shook his head. - It's not

roses that will soon fall on Azor, but bombs ... He shook his head again and asked: - So we will give gasoline?

Stalin puffed on his pipe, looked

at his old friend and colleague

and answered:

- We will.

STALIN did not yet know about Myron Taylor's meeting with Salazar, and the Lisbon conversation was curious, as were the personalities

of both interlocutors. António de Oliveira Salazar in 1941 was a man in the prime of his life—he was in his fifty-second year. Close to the Vatican, after the coup of the pro-English General Carmona in 1926, he first became the Minister of Finance, and by the 41st year he held the posts of Prime Minister, Minister of War and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal and was the creator of the constitution of 1933, which formalized the state system of the country in the form of a "corporate and an authoritarian republic. In 1939, Salazar concluded a friendship and non-aggression pact with his neighbor Franco, but he would like to live in friendship with everyone else - Portugal traded well with the Reich, and with England, and with the Yankees. Moreover, it had in considerable quantities such strategically tasty raw materials as tungsten ore.

Salazar was, of course, a devout Catholic. Myron Taylor - a prominent Protestant, but also a director of the United States Steel Corporation steel company and one of the directors of the largest American Telephone and Telegraph Company. The latter boasted that ***no single individual*** owned even one percent of its shares, and this was true. For only 1 percent of the shares of "ATT" "pulled" about 250 million dollars. The then! In addition, Taylor headed the First National Bank of

New York, the New York Central Railroad, and some other "little things." In other words, Taylor was a prominent figure among the Golden Elite, and Salazar knew it. But he was a realist. "Sir," Taylor urged him, "your country must contribute to the common cause ... The Azores

must be placed under our control. Salazar was cautious: "Mr. Taylor... General Franco can now completely enter Hitler's orbit... And the rash

actions of Portugal may give rise to... You understand... And how can England help us then?" And even you? But we will help you!

- That's what I'm afraid of! America's entry into the war is unlikely to solve the problem ... -

But ... -

Yes, Mr. Taylor! America and England, acting together, might even now be able to destroy Hitler personally, although this is not an easy task ... But it is unlikely that you will be able to destroy National Socialism itself, for it expresses a new social, political and economic development trend in Europe.

The Yankees did not like the words of Salazar, but the Portuguese dictator could afford them now, and this worried the Yankees additionally. Taylor left not salty slurping ...



Stalin did not know about this, but he understood what to pull with the Azores the Fuhrer is not worth it. And to help him here means to accelerate events.

However, the Azores are the Azores, but at the same time, two other problems began to quickly unwind across the ocean. The first was the

close direct entry of the United States into the world war. And besides this, the American "tops" were increasingly capturing nuclear affairs ... Here the contours of success began to emerge, and the Golden Elite had to hurry - the atomic bomb could become a decisive factor in turning history. Since the autumn of 1941, physicists from the States have frequented the English Isle. The process was directed by the president of the Carnegie Institution and the head of the US Office of Research and Development, Vannevar Bush, and the result was an agreement between England and America on the exchange of information on nuclear

parts...

The "exchange" went, of course, in one direction - to the USA, but the visits went in another: from the USA to England. First, the young president of Harvard University and chairman of the National Defense Research Committee, J. Conant, came to London. In October, nuclear scientists Pegram and Uri appeared there. By that time, more than half of the world's available stock of mined uranium raw materials had migrated overseas from the Belgian Congo ... The collapse of England in Africa and the Middle East forced us to hurry. And December 6, 1941

Roosevelt gave the final go-ahead to the American nuclear program. For now, research. And the next day, America got Pearl Harbor.

PEARL HARBOR is a bay on the Hawaiian island of Oahu near the capital of the Hawaiian Islands, Honolulu. Called in Hawaiian "Wai Momi" - "Pearl Waters", she retained this name in English ("Pearl Harbor" - "Pearl Harbor"). And in a strategic sense, it was really a pearl, because here the fleet of an entire state could find a convenient parking lot.

If the Russian tsars in the 19th century had the energy and pressure of at least a tenth of the Yankee, this bay could become an ideal base for the Russian Pacific Fleet ... exclusive use of Pearl Harbor. Since 1908, the main base of the American Pacific Fleet has been located here, and its official opening took place on December 14, 1911.

Thirty years had passed without one week, and smoke was thickly pouring over this base - but not from the chimneys of mighty battleships, but the smoke

of fires. However, first things first...

Prince Konoe was not inclined to force a war, and General Tojo came to replace him. On November 5, 1941—three weeks after Konoe's resignation—the war was decided at a secret imperial conference. However, it was also resolved without any secret conferences in Washington. Here the desires of the Japanese nationalist circles and the supranational circles of the Golden Cosmopolitans coincided.

The Golden Elite was worried - plans to pit the Russians and Germans were frustrated. The situation of the world "behind the scenes" was controlled worse and worse, and was it controlled by it at all - after the loss of Africa, Suez and the oil of the Middle East?! The

prospects were dim and daunting. England hid on her Island. She completely stopped

bombing of Germany, and the Luftwaffe, in turn, left England alone for the time being. In the American masses, there were less and less willing to get involved in the affairs of Europe. The elite had to shake the masses with some kind of shock in order to undermine isolationism. But how? In November, Roosevelt

had a conversation with Sachs: "Geoffrey, how are we doing with atoms?" - Not bad, sir, but they will take a lot of money ... It is very expensive to extract the uranium-235 we need from natural raw materials ... This is an expensive and long business ... - Is it possible to speed it up? - It is unlikely to speed up, but you can increase the percentage of output, although it is difficult, or just build additional factories ... "Hurry, Geoffrey...



And the next day, the president met with Hopkins. A trusted collaborator and sensitive attorney, Hopkins was aware of all the true plans and tasks, and there was no need to be dark with him:

— Harry! I have been told time after time that the Japanese are about to attack! "That's very

likely, sir!" Especially when you consider that they are unlikely to fight with Russia, as a new member of the Quadruple Pact ... Especially since we failed to push the Russians and Germans.

"Yes, Harry, you're right! The macaques will fight us... And they want to start with Pearl Harbor... - Quite a

reasonable move on their part, sir... - But would it be reasonable for us to neutralize this intention of theirs, Harry? - What do you mean, sir? "You see,

I can be frank with you, but you need to consult. Our simple "good" guys do not like, of course, "bad" guys like Hitler, but they don't want to get into a fight.

Hopkins listened because there was nothing to ask yet.

“So, Harry, the Americans need to be pushed, and I want take advantage of the example of the great

Nelson ... Hopkins' reaction was quick, and he ventured a suggestion: "You mean the spyglass trick, sir?" The President was delighted:

“Harry! You are a genius! I've been saying this for a long time, but now you've

outdone yourself! The famous Anglo-Saxon Admiral Nelson, who had a reputation as a great reformer of the tactics of naval battles (although he only rethought the ideas and experience of the Russian Admiral Ushakov here), was smart and capricious. And yet he was one-eyed. And when someone pointed out to him something that he did not want to see, he put a telescope to his eye, which had been gouged out in battle, and quite

sincerely declared: “I don't see anything.” Now Roosevelt decided to apply this technique. No disturbing reports about the intentions of the Japanese "disturbed" him, and he repeatedly ignored all attempts by the ingenuous military to increase combat readiness. He was afraid to frighten off the "Japs" in their movement towards war, because the Golden Elite no longer needed a "neutral", but a really

warring America. The United States was in full swing in the war in Europe, but was officially neutral. And to declare a real war on the Reich without a serious reason - for no reason at all - would be an unpopular matter. But getting a war with an ally of the Reich - Japan was the best option for drawing the American "good guys" into a war with the "bad guys" Nazis.

On November 10, 1941, speaking at a banquet at London City Hall, Churchill warned Japan that in the event of a conflict, Britain would immediately side with the United States. If we take into account that England did not have anything significant in the Pacific theater of operations, then this was simply a provocation on the part of Churchill. But the Yankees no longer had to be egged on - if we mean the same Roosevelt. In negotiations with the Japanese, the Americans made deliberately unacceptable proposals, and on November 17, 1941, the lower house of the Japanese parliament adopted a resolution:

“It is clear that the main cause of the current conflict between the Axis powers and the British and American peoples is the insatiable desire of the United States for world domination ... But the patience of the Japanese is not inexhaustible, it has a limit ...”

On November 26, 1941, US Secretary of State Hull handed the Japanese two more defiant memorandums. Thus, he - without suspecting it - gave the final signal for the start of the Japanese "Operation Z" against the main base of the US fleet.

EIGHT days earlier, the maneuverable aircraft carrier formation of the Japanese 1st Fleet had left the internal waters of Japan in small groups. The ships left their permanent bases almost one by one. Their radio operators, whom the US Naval Intelligence's radio interception service knew well by "handwriting", were left at home and simulated a busy radio traffic. Their colleagues, who had gone on a campaign, rested, observing strict radio silence.

By November 22, Admiral Nagumo's mobile formation gathered near the South Kuril island of Iturup. From here, it was to advance into the reach of the island of Oahu by carrier-based aircraft to strike Pearl Harbor in accordance with Plan Z. In addition, the advanced formation of the 6th fleet of 27 submarines was also engaged in the operation. It left bases in Yokosuka, Sasebo and Kure on 20 November. The Japanese bases on the island of

Formosa (Taiwan) and in Indochina were put on alert... The concentration of forces took place under the veil of negotiations between Special Ambassador Kurusu and Cordell Hull. The swing was made, but the final decision depended on the position of Washington.

At that moment, the United States had 15 battleships in the Pacific (England - 2), 6 aircraft carriers, 18 heavy cruisers and 19 light cruisers - in addition to one British aircraft carrier, 2

heavy and 3 light English cruisers and 5 Dutch light cruisers. Japan had 10

battleships, 10 aircraft carriers, 18 heavy cruisers, and 22 light cruisers. The Yankees

also had an advantage in destroyers (195 versus 136) and submarines (111 versus

74). Japan's attack on Pearl Harbor and other US and British bases and possessions in the Pacific Ocean was supposed to correct this balance of power in Japan's favor. In addition, strikes were immediately planned on Wake Island, the Marshall Islands, the islands of Timor, Java, Sumatra, the Andaman Islands in the Indian Ocean, and a strike on Burma in order to block the China-Burma road.

Roosevelt knew about this, but number one did not announce readiness. Of course, posing as Nelson, he risked. However, new battleships were laid on the stocks, and the loss of the old ones accelerated the profits after the launch of those under construction.

Of course, there was a risk - the time factor looked different by the end of the 41st year than it was previously thought. However, the temporary material loss of the Golden Elite in Pearl Harbor was supposed to be covered by a psychological gain in the mood of ordinary Americans, and this, in the end, was to bring material dividends.

In early December, the main strike force of the modern fleet - the aircraft carriers Enterprise and Lexington - were withdrawn from Pearl Harbor by order of the high command and sent to the islands of Wake and Midway. The battleships were left to be sacrificed on the altar of a future

war. The commander of the 14th Naval District, Admiral Bloch, was responsible for the defense of the base, subordinate to the commander of the Pacific Fleet, Admiral Kimmel. Both were at Pearl Harbor. As early as June 9, 1941, Roosevelt received Kimmel in the Oval Office of the White House and "confidentially informed":

— Admiral! Now we are conducting secret negotiations with certain Japanese representatives and other interested parties. - With whom specifically, the president preferred to remain silent. "And that will ensure peace in the Pacific for a hundred years!"

"Are we building castles in the air, sir?" Kimmel asked cautiously. - Oh no! And right there, without crossing, Roosevelt

asked: - And how do you feel about the idea of taking three battleships from the Pacific Ocean? Some people think that the remaining six will be more than enough.

This is crazy, sir! Any new reduction in the fleet will be an invitation to Japan to go to war!

"I think so myself, Admiral," Roosevelt reassured him. And Kimmel left, never realizing that he only strengthened the president in his opinion to sacrifice battleships and provoke the country with this. At the end of November, the US

officially denied the Japanese their claim to a leading role in Southeast Asia, and war became inevitable. At that time, about half of the fleet's combat strength was in Pearl Harbor: more than 90 ships, including 8 battleships, 8 cruisers, 29 destroyers.

The conditions for the Japanese to strike were almost ideal. Air reconnaissance in threatened directions was not conducted. The planes at the Oahu airfields stood in neat rows, wing to wing, representing ideal targets. On December 7, more than a third of the personnel from the ships received shore leave. On the ships themselves, in anticipation of the urgently appointed "morning check of survivability", the doors and hatches of watertight bulkheads were opened.

The sent aircraft carriers were the main means of protecting the fleet from air strikes, but at the end of November they also took half of the army fighter aircraft from Oahu. Anti-submarine forces were forbidden to attack "suspicious submarines" even in the defense zone of the base. And Japanese boats were already surrounding Oahu ...

On the morning of December 5, the destroyer Selfridge made sonar contact with an unknown boat, and soon the destroyer Talbot requested permission to drop depth charges on an unknown boat five miles south of Pearl Harbor. The commander of the "Tal-bot" was categorically forbidden to do this. "You mistook a whale for a boat," they explained to him. The gallant captain grunted gloomily: "For the first time I meet a whale with a motor in the stern ...

Coastal Command remained silent. So the sacrifice was ready. The Japanese were also ready. The Chief of Staff of the Combined Fleet, Admiral Matome Ugako, wrote in his diary:

"So far, the operation is progressing well. Hawaii - how a rat in a rat trap."

On November 26, 1941, Admiral Nagumo from the bridge of the flagship, the Akagi aircraft carrier, gave the order to raise the anchors with a flag semaphore. And the aircraft carrier unit, having 400 aircraft on the decks of the ships, moved from the Hitokappu (Tankan) Iturup Bay in the direction of Oahu. All negotiations in the campaign were semaphore. On the night of December 2, a prearranged signal was received on the radio:

"Climb Mount Niitaka 1208",

which meant: day "X" - December 8 (Hawaiian time - 7-e).

In the early morning of December 7, 1941, the Nagumo squadron, consisting of 2 battleships, 6 aircraft carriers, 3 cruisers, 9 destroyers and 3 submarines, entered an area located 260 miles from Oahu. At 6 o'clock the first wave of 50 dive bombers, 40 torpedo bombers, 50 conventional bombers and 50 cover fighters left the decks. An hour earlier, Ambassador Nomura had notified

Cordell-Hull of

termination of negotiations with the United States.

The second wave of a raid of 160 aircraft left at 7 hours 15 minutes ... She was less fortunate - the losses over Pearl Harbor amounted to 20 aircraft (the first wave lost only 9). But the success of the strike was obvious. Five battleships: "Arizona", "Oklahoma", "California", "Nevada", "West Virginia" - were sunk or seriously damaged.

Three battleships: "Pennsylvania", "Maryland" and "Tennessee" - received minor damage. The cruisers Helena, Honolulu and Relay sank.

Up to 300 aircraft were destroyed at the airfields, human losses exceeded three thousand, and almost two and a half thousand were killed. Burnt tanning beds,

oil, rubber, and burnt metal hovered over Oahu. And the Golden Elite sighed calmly - the work was **started** on **this** side of the ocean. On **the same** side of the Atlantic, it was **continued**.

Our planet is large, and the day does not come to different places at the same time, so when the BBC broadcast the latest news from Pearl Harbor, it was Sunday evening, December 7th, in London. At Checkers, guests from the United States, Winant and Harriman, dined at Churchill's. The conversation flowed slowly, moisture flowed into the glasses, time flowed ...

A fifteen-dollar American receiver presented to the Prime Minister by Hopkins was working on the dining table. And then the impassive voice of the announcer announced the Japanese attack. Everyone froze, and then Churchill jumped up and strode to the telephone, throwing out as he went:

"I'm going to call Eden at the Foreign Office now so that war on Japan is declared immediately." "Sir,

it's just a radio message," Harriman reasoned. - A mistake is possible, although this is the BBC ... - I promised the president and

everyone that war would be declared in a minute, - Churchill, who was already, as they say, "on platoon."

"Sir," Wynant suggested, "wouldn't it be better to call the White House and get confirmation?" And so they did.

And Churchill

immediately hurried to Washington - the situation had to be used "to its fullest", while the acuteness of the moment ensured the maximum effect.

And the NECESSARY effect was indeed achieved: America experienced a shock ... On December 8, 1941, Roosevelt spoke to both

houses of congress. "Pearl Harbor has become a symbol of national disgrace," he said picturesquely.

A

shame? Oh yes!

And it must be washed away! Congress passed a resolution declaring war on Japan, and immediately a public opinion poll showed that this decision was supported by 96 percent of the population. The leaders of the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Unions vied with each other about the readiness of workers to switch to an extended work week with a wage freeze and despite rising prices. The leaders of the farmers' organizations were also eager to work for Uncle Sam...

So what's better? By the end of December, prices for basic consumer goods rose by a third at once! And their growth continued.

The war zone also

expanded. On December 8, an imperial rescript informed Japan of the declaration of war between Great Britain and the United States. And from December 8 to 12, Australia, Holland, Canada, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, Costa Rica, Cuba, Nicaragua, Panama and El Salvador also declared war on Japan. Plus - the National Committee "Free France" and the London Polish government.

The governments of Mexico, Colombia, as well as the emigrant governments of Greece, Norway and Belgium broke off diplomatic relations with Japan (the latter also declared war on Japan on December 21). The Fuhrer,

realizing that now America would still go over to active operations against the Reich, three days after Pearl Harbor - December 11 - he himself declared war on Washington. The Duce did the

same... December 9

declared war on Germany and the Kuomintang. And on December 25, 1941, the British General Wavell reached the "temporary Chinese capital" - Chongqing and discussed with Chiang Kai-shek the military situation in the

Far East. The situation changed like in a kaleidoscope, and not only in the Far East. Almost simultaneously with the attack on Pearl Harbor on

In the Pacific, the Yankees and the British received a radical change in the situation in the Atlantic

as well. Churchill learned of this from the First Sea Lord, Dudley Pound. Sir Winston was going overseas, he had to decide a lot of things for the future, but he, as usual, was still in bed at eleven in the morning - having already had breakfast there and received several officials with papers. The British Prime Minister had just knocked over a glass of cognac, deciding that he had worked hard enough to consider it well deserved, and was wondering if he deserved a second one at once?

Having come to the conclusion on sound reflection that he also honestly earned the second one, Sir Winston accepted it too, and just at that moment a disheveled Pound flew

into his

study and bedroom. - Sir! Churchill with difficulty fell out of a complacent state and looked at the

commander of the fleet of His Majesty. — Dudley! What's the matter with you?.. I've never seen

you like this... Did the Fuhrer order to live

long? Pound didn't take the joke and simply said: "The Germans have landed on the Cape

Verde Islands, Madeira

and the

Azores..." "Dudley, you're kidding!" — No, sir! -

What - so at all at the same time? - Yes ...

Churchill became furious - instantly and immediately: - How did you miss them? You missed them, Pound! How did it

happen? What forces? They need to be kicked out! - Sir! Apparently, a combined landing from the air and from the sea was landed on the Cape Verde Islands and Madeira ... The starting points are obviously the Canaries for Madeir

— Oh, that rascal Franco! And the Azores? How did you miss them in the Azores? - Airborne paratroopers

landed there, and, according to some reports, the Luftwaffe used not only their Cretan experience, but also the experience of the Russians, as well as Russian landing equipment ... Our agents on the islands urgently reported that there was a landing force on the Azores

artillery and even light tankettes... As far as we know, only the Russians have the means to drop them from the air now... - We have to knock them out of there, Dudley! - It is unlikely to succeed. "Then block it!" - Sir! A tight blockade will scatter forces, but we will try ... The British really tried to try. In parallel, the Foreign Office contacted Lisbon, asking if the Portuguese wanted help from England in restoring the sovereignty of the occupied islands? Salazar kept silent... And all that the British managed to achieve was to block the possibility of building up the German naval forces

in the Azores. The Germans, for the time being, were satisfied with the fact that they occupied the islands before the Anglo-Saxons. As a result, by the end of the 41st year, combat activity in the Atlantic did not increase.

So far ...

But it was developing with might and main in the Pacific Ocean.

On DECEMBER 8, 1941, a Japanese landing operation began on the southern coast of Siam (in Thailand); on December 10, the Japanese landed on the islands of Luzon and Guam; all December, three Japanese cruisers and a flotilla of destroyers first appeared off the coast of Wake Island.

This first Yankee raid was repulsed, but the British were doing poorly in besieged Hong Kong. Alarmed by numerous landings in different places, the English Admiral Phillips went to sea with a squadron consisting of the battleships Prince of Wales, Repulse and 4 destroyers. However, he did not have air support - all the British aircraft were busy fighting the landings, and soon Japanese aircraft off the coast of Malaya sank the historic Prince of Wales, along with Phillips himself. With a joint strike of high-altitude bombers and torpedo bombers, the Repulse was also launched to the bottom.

And now the Japanese began a systematic seizure of the Philippines. On December 22 and 24, they landed there in Lingayen Bay and in the Lamon area ... And

On December 21, an offensive operation of Japanese troops near Changsha in Central China began. The

geography of the Japanese offensive was vast - in December, the Japanese also carried out landing operations in North Borneo and were preparing for serious battles in the Dutch Indies. But so far almost everywhere success has been swift and complete. For example, the closest American strongholds to Japan were Guam, the largest of the Mariana Islands, as well as Wake and Midway Islands, intermediate stations between Asia and Hawaii. There were no fortifications on Guam, with Wake at first there was a miss, but on December 23, after a serious assault, Wake was also taken. On December 25, 1941, after seven days of resistance, the British garrison of Hong Kong capitulated. Panic in the camp of the Anglo-Saxons was growing ...

On December 22, the Arcadia conference began in Washington — negotiations between Roosevelt and Churchill with the participation of the chiefs of the main staffs of the United States and Great Britain on matters of waging war with the Axis powers. And on December 26, Churchill spoke at a joint meeting of both houses of Congress.

But there was fear in his tone.

Moscow has so far remained neutral. The TASS statement simply expressed regret about the expansion of the conflict of powers and offered peace mediation by the USSR as a Pacific power. And in mid-December, Vyshinsky received US Ambassador Shteingard and told him:

- The Soviet Union considers the most reasonable option speedy end to the war. "And how

do you imagine it, sir?" - England agrees to a truce with Germany and Italy in Europe on the basis of recognizing the Anschluss, including the Sudetenland, the Danzig zone and German Silesia in the empire, and amicably resolves the problems of colonies with Berlin and Rome ... France is included in the new Europe. - And

America? "It's time for you, Mr. Steingard, to admit that America has received and is receiving too much from other people's wars. Therefore, now you have to give in ... In Europe, in Asia ... - Give in to these macaques?"

— No, to the peoples of the world... The war must be stopped, but the result must be an equal world... For all.

- I see, Mr. Vyshinsky, you speak almost like a Nazi ... - No, Mr. Steingard, we are simply striving for clarity. The peoples do not want exploitation of raw materials... The peoples do not want exploitation in general... — This is all your communist

propaganda. - No, it's a fact. America is a free country and will defend the

freedom of all! Vyshinsky shrugged his shoulders: "Freedom?" You accused the Germans of

organizing concentration camps... You accuse us of the same thing... But didn't you drive tens of thousands of not only Japanese living in the United States, but also American citizens of Japanese origin into unbearable conditions in concentration camps? - This is a preventive military measure ... We have the right to it. — I do not argue... But all peoples should have

equal rights. Otherwise, morality turns out to be double... And double morality, Mr. Shteingard, is no longer morality, but political depravity...

Yankee left angry. However, we have not yet given any special advances to the Japanese either. Without denying the significance of the

Quadruple Alliance, Stalin

suggested that Tokyo abandon the Portsmouth Treaty and resolve the issue of the complete transfer of Sakhalin to Russia ... The only thing that we provided Japan "here and now" was additional fuel and raw materials. And Japan went to the States and the Asian "England", knowing that its rear was provided by our partnership with the Reich.

HOWEVER, there was still more to come.

Chapter 17

Finally, a new year, 1942, arrived. It was a military year for almost the whole world, but for the USSR it began as a peaceful one. However, it was no longer possible to remain on the sidelines - the decisive battles with the forces of Evil were

close for Russia too ... Stalin lived in peaceful concerns, but increasingly thought about war. "How often," he said to Zhdanov, "peoples had to hear: "We are waging war in the name of eradicating war ..." And this was a cover for new weapons and new wars ... However, now that Russia and Germany are politically together, you can think about ways the actual eradication of war as such ... There is enough work even without a fight ...

Stalin took a letter from the table, handed it to Zhdanov: "Here, another letter from Professor Kapitsa ... And again - cocky ... Take it out and put it in ... He writes: "What kind of government are you if you can't order!" "Yes, sometimes he is self-confident to the point of impudence," agreed Zhdanov. - Nothing! Rushing ahead, it happens - almost dictates, but if in the interests of the cause - so be it! There will be enough agreeing without him ... Zhdanov laughed: - Confirming your words, Comrade Stalin, you will have to agree...

And Stalin wrote an answer late in the evening:

"Tov. Kapitsa!

I have received all your letters. There is a lot of instructiveness in the letters - I think one day I will meet with you and talk about them.

I. Stalin.

Three years ago, on December 4, 1938, Pravda published a letter from Academicians Lavrentiev, Muskhelishvili, Sobolev, Khristianovich and

Professor Panov, where they wrote about the need to train "engineers-researchers, engineers-scientists who combine perfect knowledge of a particular branch of technology with a deep general education in physics and mathematics." It was the idea of the

Physicotechnical Institute. Stalin was formally far from science, but he was aware of its power. That is why he was loyal to the physicist Kapitsa even when Kapitsa was not very loyal to him.

Ivan Tevosyan was also aware of the power of exact knowledge. Now he regularly, sometimes once a month, appeared in the Reich: he maintained established contacts, made new ones ... The Germans agreed with him that even now, although the war was on, we should think about how to develop the two economies in addition to each

other. Tevosyan met great supporters of common work - Ministerial Director Dr. Emil Wiel and Dr. Karl Schnurre, head of the Eastern European Referent Office of the Economic Policy Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Schnurre, born in 1898, managed to fight in the First World War in the north of the Eastern Front, and was wounded in the 18th. In 1928, in Tehran, he became intimately acquainted with Count Schulenburg, then the German envoy to Iran. "I, Herr Tevosyan, can consider myself the founder of the newest business

relations between the Reich and Russia," Schnurre joked. And he was not that far from the truth. From the famous dinner in a

separate office of the Berlin restaurant "Evest", which Schnurre gave in honor of the Soviet charge d'affaires Astakhov and deputy trade representative Babarin on July 25, 39, and, in fact, the final movement of Germany and Russia to the Pact began on August 23, 1939 to a common world and a common cause.

A new year, 1942, has come... Tevosyan came to Germany again in early January - it was necessary to discuss issues related to the mutual deliveries of non-ferrous metals. And Goering suggested to him:

— Herr Tevosyan, I invite you to visit our Norddeutsche Affineri plants near Hamburg and our aluminum and vanadium refineries in Lauta.

Of course, Tevosyan went.

At the copper smelters, whole mountains of emerald crystals of copper sulphate and stacks of the purest electrolytic copper could delight even an artist, and the metallurgist Tevosyan looked at them with double admiration. However, the main thing was waiting for him in Lauth... The huge plant was almost deserted - the whole process from crushing and roasting bauxites to electric aluminum smelting was highly automated. Tevosyan was accompanied by the director, Dr. Lauber, and when they entered the alumina calcination shop around noon, they walked along the white oxide dust that covered the floor of the shop with a thin layer, like on freshly fallen snow - their footprints here were the first. - Is there any staff here? Tevosyan was surprised. - Yes, but almost all university graduates ... Works here

almost more doctors of science than workers. - And how many people are at the plant? "About a thousand...

==

Returning, Tevosyan told Stalin about this, and in response, he showed him another irritated letter from Kapitsa - Rutherford's favorite student sharply insisted on the speedy organization of the Fiztekhn. - Contact this brawler, Ivan Fedorovich, and work

through the issue in a short time. Prepare a resolution of the Council of People's Commissars, select together a leading core ... We also need workers who are addressed as "Herr Doktor" if they are on probation abroad.

A LOT of work has already been done, and there is more to come. In January, Matsuoka again came to Moscow - this time as a special ambassador for special assignments. The Tojo cabinet was reluctant to cooperate, but the huge new theaters of war made the supply problem for Japan even more acute than for Germany.

Russia helped the Germans solve this sore point, and could help the Japanese as well. And even Tojo in Tokyo understood this, as he also understood that the friendship of the Reich with Russia is already strong, which means that Japan will

also have to be friends with Russia ... Tojo always looked at Russia as a permanent enemy, but the essence of a **smart** approach was that Russia is a permanent **neighbor** of Japan. So it was necessary to make new connections. And here the one who could be the only one in Japan that could be called - albeit half-jokingly - "Stalin's friend" could come in handy. That is, a "moral communist" named "Pine Hill". Therefore, Matsuoka

went to Russia. He counted on no more than one conversation with Stalin, expecting new disputes with Molotov. However, his first serious conversation began in Stalin's office. And it started immediately with Sakhalin

Karafuto ... - I understand that it's not so easy for you to part with such tempting territory," Stalin said after the greetings.

Matsuoka wanted to object, but Stalin held him back with a gesture and said

firmly: "Mr. Matsuoka, up to one and a half million tons of coal per year in the Sakhalin deposits is quite sufficient reason for Japan not to want to leave there." But this problem can be solved ... Matsuoka again wanted

to object, and Stalin suggested: - Let's remember the story ... And he began: - In 1787,

La Perouse rounded Sakhalin through the strait, which was named after him ... Our Krusenstern passed through this strait in 1805 and swam around Sakhalin for a long time ... In 1849, our Nevelskoy proved that Sakhalin was an island, not a peninsula. And in 1853 our first military post was arranged there. And then the Ainu lived on the island mostly... "And the Japanese, too," Matsuoka

jumped up. "Yes," Stalin agreed. - But

mostly there were Ainu, which, as our historians told me, you drove out of Hokkaido during it. "But the Japanese were there too," Matsuoka persisted.

"There were," Stalin agreed again. - In the very south, on the shores of the La Perouse Strait, there were indeed several small fishing villages of fugitive Japanese. "Here," Matsuoka flashed his glasses with satisfaction. "Why shouldn't they be there?" The La Perouse Strait is only fifty kilometers, so some fishermen could settle there. So what? - Like what! On this basis, according to the Shimodsky treaty of 1854, Russia agreed to joint ownership! Stalin suddenly somehow softened, blurred into a good-natured and even

simple smile and, sincerely addressing Matsuoka, said:

"Mr. Matsuoka... Let's think aloud... What was Russia then? Then it was ruled by - Stalin uttered this word with such contempt that Matsuoka shuddered involuntarily - yes, allegedly ruled by Alexander II. More precisely, he had just taken the place of his deceased father. And what was Alexander II? He not only from Sakhalin and ... - here Stalin paused, - and from the Kuriles, but even from Russian America he refused! He was also...

Stalin fell silent, held the pipe in his hands, watching the smoke curling out of it, looked at the smoke from Matsuoka's cigar, and then, still smiling good-naturedly, leaned confidentially almost to the ear of the Japanese and in a half-whisper - for the interpreter, however, quite distinguishable - finished:

"He was a political idiot!" And how can the power be responsible for the actions of an idiot? Matsuoka

again wanted to object, but Stalin, in his own way, restrained him with his hand, preventing him from speaking, and led him on: "Think for

yourself, Mr. Matsuoka." Russian sailors from the beginning of the nineteenth century plowed the entire oceans, went around the world. Antarctica was discovered... And the Japanese sailors - just don't be offended, Mr. Matsuoka - everything is around Japan, around Japan... Stalin showed with a pipe how they went around

Japan in the 19th century Japanese. Matsuoka wanted to insert something, but again Stalin did not let him. - Mr. Matsuoka, well, think for yourself - who has more historical rights to Sakhalin and ... - here Stalin cut himself off, looked at Matsuoka, waved his hand (they say, where ours did not disappear) ...

And Matsuoka was already shrinking, expecting to hear: "and ... Smoked," but Stalin continued in a different way:

- Come on - let there be only Sakhalin ... But who has more rights to Sakhalin? The Russians, to whose mainland Sakhalin crouched like a calf to the uterus; from the Russians, who explored it back in the days of Russian America, or from the Japanese, who had a couple of seasonal villages on the southern tip? "No, not seasonal," Matsuoka finally broke through with

an objection. "Yes, even if not seasonal," Stalin readily conceded, "but we have more

rights!" Yes, and you got your half of Sakhalin from Count Witte-Polusakhalinsky and Nikolai, the politically insane grandson of the politically insane Alexander.

Soon they parted, but Stalin warned that he would like to continue the conversation. Of course, such a conversation could not immediately lead to anything concrete, and Stalin understood this perfectly well. What was important here was that such a conversation nevertheless took place, that it was started. And dashing trouble is the beginning. Stalin said so to Molotov.

"Uh, Koba," he hesitated, "where you sit down from the samurai, you get off there." The people are still

the same! - And what? It's not so bad," Stalin disagreed. - Or are only Bolsheviks allowed to be steel, iron, hard stone? If the partner is uncompromising, that's half the trouble... Stalin thought for a moment, puffed on his pipe.

- The trouble is, if he is mean, double-dealing. "That's it," Molotov agreed. Stalin dragged on his pipe again. He paused ... Then he waved his hand and summed up the conversation:

- Okay, now it's too early to rack your brains about it.

But we forget about Sakhalin, and the Kuriles, we will not.



Two days later, Stalin invited the Japanese to his place again. He, it seems, was worried, he himself started talking about the Kuriles - they say, you gave us

The Kuriles in exchange for Sakhalin back

in the 19th century. "Mr. Matsuoka," Stalin remarked, "we said that at that time Japan gave Russia what did not rightfully belong to her ...

But about the

Kuriles ... "We have long called them Chisima - a thousand islands," Matsuoka said. "I

know," Stalin said curtly. Matsuoka paused in surprise, and Stalin spoke again: "Discovered in 1634 by the Dutchman de Vries. Explored by Russians from 1713 to 1718.

Matsuoka was silent, and Stalin, looking at him point-blank, suggested: "Mr. Matsuoka!" Let's look at the map ... Stalin pointed to a table standing in the distance, got up and went to the table. The ambassador, willy-nilly, followed him. On the table, like a blue tablecloth, lay a large map of the Pacific Ocean between Russia, Japan, and America. At the bottom, Sakhalin-Karafuto clung to the Russian Primorye, at the top, the Russian Chukotka and the former Russian, and since 1867, the American, Seward Peninsula stretched towards each other across

the Bering Strait ... Closer to Chukotka than to Seward, the American island with the Russian name of St. Lawrence turned white. Lost in the ocean are the American islands named after the Russian Pribylov... The former Russian Aleutian Islands stretched out into the ocean, narrowing into the ocean, making the once huge Bering Sea an inland

Russian sea. Stalin looked at the map, stood for a moment, sighed heavily, without restraining himself, was

still silent, and began: "Here, Mr. Matsuoka, is a map. Here is Alaska ... Ours, - Stalin sighed again, - the former territory ... Here is the Alexander archipelago stretched along the American mainland. Also our ex. Here are ours, thank God, and now they are Commanders, but now not

our Aleuts. Matsuoka listened, also hard. "And here are yours," Stalin so pressed on this "yours" that Matsuoka shuddered, so it was said not only with hatred, but with some kind of pain - not pain, regret - not regret, but with something like that, which cannot be expressed in words, but it tears the soul - your Kuriles ...

Stalin spread his hands:

"The Russians, Mr. Matsuoka, swam a lot in these waters already in the eighteenth century, and even more so in the nineteenth... The Japanese simply didn't swim in these places, you didn't have such ships then, you self-isolated. So, the Aleuts were for Russia, which included Russian America, the first, oceanic outpost. And a natural outpost, provided to Russia by nature itself. But the Kuril Islands for Russia is also an outpost, already the second, near. The Aleuts close our Bering Sea, and the Kuriles close our Sea of Okhotsk. The Kuriles, of course, belong to Russia, and only the politically insane Alexander and his brother Konstantin could not understand this ... They did not care about the first Russian outpost, and the second, and Russia too.

Matsuoka remained silent, making no attempt to protest. And Stalin calmly summed up: -

That's why the Russians - by natural law - the Kuriles became yours, Japanese.

Matsuoka remained silent and did not try to interrupt. And what can you say in response to these weighty, iron, steel words? And Stalin, looking directly at the gloomy special ambassador, continued:

"We, Lord Matsuoka, are peaceful people. We were able to come to an agreement with Germany primarily on this ground - the ground of peace. And you see that peace has benefited both peoples. Germany solves her problems not without our help, the Soviet Union, not without her help, is increasingly turning into a huge construction site ... We do not need a war either in the West or in the East. And that is why I spoke so frankly about the Kuriles not to confuse you. I just wanted to say that there is a question and there is no need to turn a blind eye to it ... It must be kept in mind and resolved. Decide wisely, for mutual benefit, and be sure to decide peacefully. I do not ask, Mr. Matsuoka, to answer me something now. I ask you simply not to forget about this conversation of ours and to remember that everything must be resolved peacefully. Especially during that big war that you are waging and in which our sympathies are on your side. And - in the letter of the Quadruple Alliance, and in the spirit of our common capabilities ... Give us a few years, and we from Siberia will be able to give Japan as much as a reliable partner can and should give to his reliable partner ...

Stalin put the phone down on the map, looked Matsuoka in the eyes and smiled a little, with only his eyes. And then he held out his hand to Matsuoka: "We are

ready to give a lot even now ... But I would like to quickly agree on South Sakhalin, leaving all the concessions on the island to you for the next war years. Thank you for listening carefully and, I hope, with understanding.

Matsuoka realized that the conversation was over, shook hands and - although Stalin did not insist on any answer from him - said: -

Thank you too. We will remember and think...

* * *

And in WASHINGTON on January 14, 1942, the conference under the code name "Arcadia" ended ... In fact, Arcadia is a historical region in the mountainous part of Greece. In ancient times, its population had a reputation as a hospitable and pious people, and in the pastoral court performances of the 17th century it was portrayed as a country of heavenly innocence and idyllic simplicity of morals. That is, when choosing a name for the conference, the Anglo-Saxons did "exactly the opposite" - something, but there was no smell of innocence in this Anglo-Saxon "Arcadia" ...

The conference began on December 22, 1941, around Christmas. Churchill was settled in the White House in a large bedroom adjacent across the hall to the room of Harry Hopkins. And everyone noted that the table in the presidential palace - especially in terms of the quality and quantity of drinks - has become much better.

On Christmas Day, the guest and host stood in Foundry Methodist Church and listened to the Reverend Father Harris exalt for them prayers...

"With your gracious help, Lord," Harris praised Sir Winston, "he continues to lead his valiant people through blood, sweat and tears to a new world where people of good will will live together, not daring to touch or intimidate others ...

A choir of parishioners sang the psalm "Oh, the little town of Bethlehem," and the hall resounded:

On your dark streets shines at night Eternal
light; Addressed
to you Today Hopes
and fears
of these years ...

And the next day, Churchill, with his characteristic outward brilliance and inner emptiness, spoke to senators and congressmen. In the best traditions of American parliamentary hypocrisy, he broadcast: "All my life I have been with that current on both sides of

the Atlantic, which is directed against privileges and monopolies ... I confidently sailed towards the ideal of people's power, by the will of the people and for the people ... In our country, as well as in yours, public figures are proud that they can be servants of the state, and would consider it shameful for themselves to claim the role of its masters ...



Neither Churchill nor even the millionaire Roosevelt really could claim to be the masters of America and England, and not because of a particularly developed bashfulness - it was just that other, much richer people were the masters. And Churchill, of course, understood this. But the podium of the US Congress is just the place from where the truth was expelled by the "founding fathers". So could the British prime minister be telling the truth here? And in general - anywhere? Inspiring the Yankees

(the speech was broadcast over the radio), Churchill then went to Canada, sunbathing in Florida from January 5 to 11, but eight plenary "Arcade" meetings took place in the White House. Beforehand, everything was discussed by Roosevelt, Hopkins and Churchill at the dinner table, so that everything went smoothly - almost Arcadian, in the spirit of an idyll.

In addition, twelve separate meetings of the Chiefs of Staff were held in the Federal Reserve Building. At

In this case, the new situation in the Pacific Ocean and in Europe did not change anything from the point of view of strategic goals - back in February 1941, at the US-British headquarters negotiations, it was decided that the main enemy was Germany. And so it remained. At the same time, General

MacArthur, the de facto commander of the Philippine "army," was driving cipher after cipher to Washington, reporting that Japanese propaganda was being carried out in the Philippines "with deadly force" and that he was "unable to fight it" ... The Japanese rushed through Malaya and the Philippines, paratroopers landed in the Dutch Indies and pressed the American-"Filipino" troops to the southern tip of the Bataan Peninsula. Therefore, in tactical terms, the Japanese factor had to be given special attention. It was decided to create a new theater of operations ^{leftovers} from the Bay of Bengal to Australia, conditionally named "ABDA" (American, British, Dutch, Australian - Americans, British, Dutch, Australians) ... General Marshall at the very first meeting of generals and admirals in the afternoon of the first day Christmas said:

- I express a personal opinion, gentlemen, but I strongly believe that the question of unity is of most importance.
command...

The British met this idea without enthusiasm - they did not want to go under the stick of Uncle Sam. However, on December 26, immediately after Churchill's high-profile speeches in Congress, Marshall repeated his proposal already under Roosevelt and Churchill. Sir Winston immediately protested, but in the end Hopkins **arranged everything**. As the "gray eminence" of the Golden Elite, he always arranged everything if he dealt with subordinate figures like Churchill. Everything worked out this time as well, and as a result, the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the United States and Britain were created. Quarrels began immediately - far from being of the Arcadian kind. What can

you do: the life of Capital is not a pastoral! Today's theaters of war are tomorrow's spheres of influence and sales markets... We have outlined the figures for the buildup of armaments. If, before Pearl Harbor in 1942, the United States was supposed to produce almost 30,000 combat aircraft, 20,000 tanks, 6,000 anti-aircraft guns and

84 thousand air bombs, now Roosevelt was inclined to raise the "bar" to 45 thousand aircraft, 45 thousand tanks, 20 thousand anti-aircraft guns and 720 thousand air bombs ... Military industrialists could be satisfied.

But Churchill looked thoughtful. And not only because he was thinking: either to return home on a battleship, or to fly through Bermuda by plane. In the end, he decided that flying was a more reliable option ... On the evening of January 14, Roosevelt and Hopkins escorted him and Pound on a difficult and unsafe road. A special train to Norfolk, Virginia was served on a siding at 6th Street. Churchill was leaving, then to fly away, but his thoughts were far from the winged ones. He understood

that at home, in London, strong criticism awaited him. Instead of making peace with the Germans, he brought new war years to England. And no one could yet say how many more of them would be ahead, although it could be predicted in advance that any victory - if it took place at all - would not be a victory for those "United Nations" that American clickers began to buzz about, but a victory for the Yankees, more precisely - victory of the Golden Cosmopolitans. Half the son of an American, the daughter of a stockbroker Jenny Jerome, Churchill himself was a cosmopolitan, although without a large personal gold reserve for worldly buoyancy. But the descendant of the Dukes of Marlborough had to explain himself to an ordinary Briton, for whom the Island was the birthplace of himself, his ancestors and his children and grandchildren. And he brought him from across the ocean all the same blood, sweat and tears ...

In JANUARY 1942 Zhdanov went to Berlin for the first time. On the eve of his departure, he had a long conversation with Stalin. "As

I understand it," Zhdanov thought, "Hitler and Mussolini became possible as a result of the political reaction of peoples who did not dare to go over to socialism, like us, but were disillusioned with capitalism. Franco and Salazar are a different matter: different conditions and reasons ... But the common thing is that they also strengthen the role of the state ... And

The Japanese are stepping up. In this sense, all of them are really closer to us than the Anglo-Saxons ... But what should we see in the future? - The Bolsheviks see in the future what Marx defined for them: communism, that is, a free association of free producers ...



Arriving in Berlin, Zhdanov repeated this idea in a conversation with Goebbels.

Goebbels listened, and then asked: "But why did your socialism turn out to be so extreme?" I beg your pardon for my bluntness, but I would like to hear your opinion, Herr Zhdanov. "Well, I can answer," the guest did not avoid

answering. "Firstly, external capital is to blame, which nourished the civil war already in the bud ... Further, the greed of the internal overthrown propertied classes, who did not want to part with what they and their ancestors stole from the people, is to blame ... The intelligentsia is to blame - the one that foully fled the country, depriving us of the already small resources of education ... And the dullness, the unpreparedness of the peasant masses for a new life is to blame ... But, Mr. Goebbels, we had to overcome all this at the same time ... There was no time for white gloves and lispings ... Goebbels thought and agreed: - Perhaps, you are right ... At Goebbels, Zhdanov met the former head of the Hitler Youth, Baldur von Schirach - he was 35

years old, and he moved away from the youth movement itself, replaced by twenty-eight-year-old Arthur Axman. Schirach - prominent and confident, in the form of an SS Obergruppenführer - said:

— We put before the youth the following principles: love for the motherland, ready for self-sacrifice; overcoming class prejudices and class enmity; constant care for health and strengthening it through tourism, sports and games; development

vocational training and comradely mutual understanding of young people abroad ... - Well, as for

tourism, we are ready to accept several thousand of your young tourists this year, and there are enough routes - to Vladivostok, - Zhdanov laughed.

- We need to think about it! Your idea is

really good... - Your goals - the way you formulate them - too, Mr.

Schirach. This conversation happened while watching Leni Riefenstahl's new

tape "Turksib" ... Soon the film was to be released on the screens of the Reich and Europe, and its presentation to the general public was one of the goals of Zhdanov's trip. He and Leni already knew each other, and Zhdanov asked her to show Olympia, taken by Leni at the 1936 Berlin Olympics. When the lights came on in the hall, Zhdanov sighed: "It's a pity that I myself am not an

athlete, Mrs. Riefenstahl ... But, watching your wonderful film, I came to the conclusion that the approaches of the Anglo-Saxons and Germans to sports are different. — Oh, that's interesting, Herr Zhdanov! - Yes ... For the British, sport is the pastime of gentlemen ... But for

Germans - the implementation of the cult of a healthy body.

Bravo, Herr Zhdanov! I congratulate you on subtle observation... - Thank you...

The Spaniards came up with bullfighting, the French - duels to the death, the British - scuffle called boxing... But the Germans don't have such cruel spectacles. Your Bursh duels leave only scars on the faces of men, but do not kill them ... But you appreciate the movement of the body

itself. "And what about the Russians, Herr Zhdanov?" - You see, the educated strata in old Russia often simply acted ape and took not the best examples as an example. And the social life of the masses has been undeveloped for centuries... At one time in Russia, street fistfights were in use - wall to wall... But this is still not boxing, although it happened there, and blood flowed ... Just before the first blood they fought ... However, cruelty was not welcomed by the people ... Here you and we look at life in a similar way. Zhdanov listened

attentively, and especially - a middle-aged German with gray hair at the temples and a mustache of the Kaiser type with slightly sad eyes. "Professor

Haushofer," he introduced himself. - I'm familiar with

your latest book on the continental bloc, Herr Haushofer... - Oh, I'm glad.

General Karl Haushofer

was a soldier,

a diplomat, and a scientist. He did not create what from some point on they began to call geopolitics, but his geopolitical ideas were original and logical ...

Something similar was expressed at the beginning of the century by the Russian General Staff Officer Vandam-Edrikin. Haushofer also served in the General Staff - German, was a military attaché in Japan. From there he brought out the theory of Eurasianism. At one time, Haushofer had a considerable influence on the Fuhrer, then they somehow parted ways, but now the seventy-year-old geopolitician general was welcomed again. His theory was now very relevant, for it said: based on trade and (the power of money) plutocracy of Anglo-Saxon England and America would come to an end if the countries of the "Heartland" - Germany, Russia, Japan and

China - united in

hegemony

"Atlantic"

one union.

"Eurasia, Herr Zhdanov," the general said, "cannot be strangled as long as its two largest peoples—Germans and Russians—are striving to avoid internecine conflict. "We think so ourselves, Herr Professor. Zhdanov

also met with the Fuhrer. "The main thing, Herr

Zhdanov," he told him, "is to understand

that we are all continental countries in Europe, while America and England are not ... They only set the European states against each other and must be expelled from Europe ... A new world order is needed, where everyone will have their own sphere of interest and their share of the pie ...

"It's always difficult to divide the pie, Herr Hitler... Of course, if it's dishonest to share... Although it's not easy even with an honest division, if the fair shares are different..."

- You, Herr Zhdanov, have grasped the essence! And, it seems to me, we need to work a lot together on long-term plans ... Our poet Emmanuel Geibel wrote: "Again through the Germans

there will be a healing of the world ... "Today I would change this line:" Through the Germans and Russians ... ". "Well, Mr.

Hitler, I think this is the case when, for the sake of an idea, even the harmony of verse can be neglected. - Yes ... I must

admit, I have grandiose plans! And I would like not only to lay their foundation, but also to see the building during my lifetime ... For example, I believe that in the Europe of the future, which is under the economic leadership of Germany, the entire Baltic coast of Europe should become a continuous strip of seaside resorts for the broadest masses of the people ...

- We have already done this on the Black Sea - in the Crimea and the Caucasus. And in the future it will be possible to establish an exchange: Europeans - to us, and we - to European resorts ...

- Of course, we will move in this direction. I ask you to pass this on to Mr. Stalin... Hitler thought for a moment. "Here's what

I can offer you, Herr

Zhdanov. My Minister of Economics, Walter Funk, recently introduced me to the memorandum of the old party-genosse, who is also known to me personally - Walter von Kersdorf ... Kersdorf filed it in June of the fortieth year, but many of the ideas set forth there, not only are not outdated, but are still aimed at the future ... I can order that you be acquainted with a copy ... This is an extremely confidential document, but just for this reason, I think it will be useful for you to get acquainted with it in order to critically evaluate it and acquaint Mr. Stalin with his ideas ... You need to think about the new face of the world now...

- I would be grateful to you, Mr. Hitler ... - Yes, read it, but keep in mind that for me this is not a literal plan, but only an example of broad thinking and a reason for reflection ...

Chapter 18

On the same day, in the evening, a photocopy of the typewritten text was handed over to Zhdanov ... And he peered with interest at the lines written by the old Nazi, who joined National Socialism back in 1925. He read:

***“Von Korswant Kunttsov, early June 1940.
Gauleiter for special postal assignments. otd. Yarmen
and previously authorized department of economic policy
of the imperial administration
of the NSDAP Secret! Personally!***

To the Reich Minister of Economics, Party General Funk
***Berlin 8
Berenstraße 43–45***

To the Chairman of the German Colonial Union,
Reichsstatthalter, Party Genosse von Epp
Munich

Dear Reich Minister of Economics!

Dear Herr Reichsstatthalter!

The time is not far off when England will be brought to her knees, and England and France will be forced to give up their colonial possessions ... I, as an old connoisseur of the colonies (for five years I was a planter, first in Cameroon, and later in New Guinea), and also As an old National Socialist of personal renown, I will allow myself to give you some considerations that you may find useful.

A)

I proceed from the fact that we should be guided by the following principles. 1.

Ensuring military security not only of the territory of Germany, but also of the main parts of the future German colonial possessions. 2. Providing -

as far as possible - lines of communication with these colonial possessions. 3. Providing all kinds of

raw materials and colonial

goods that our economy badly needs: a) for the

German metropolis itself; b) for

protectorates under German protection or future protectorates or client states, such as Bohemia (**Czech Republic. - S.K.**), Poland, Slovakia or, respectively, such as Denmark, Norway, Luxembourg, Belgium and Holland; c) for other small European states, such

as Ireland, Sweden, Finland, Hungary, Bulgaria, Yugoslavia, Romania, Switzerland and others, since they do not have sufficient colonial possessions, such as Portugal.

C) Reliable military protection can only be guaranteed if there is a sufficiently large closed colonial territory capable of securing independent supplies also in relation to civilian territory, for example, Central Africa, if necessary. In detail, I imagine the future political map of Africa as follows. Morocco will belong to Spain

(like Gibraltar in Europe). Algeria, together with part of the territory of the Sahara, remains

with the French (not counting the French colonies in India, the South Sea, the West Indies and South America). But for this, France must give Italy (except for Corsica and Savoy in Europe) Tunisia and Djibouti. Germany and her

to the client states, France must cede Senegambia, the French Congo, the colonies in the Gulf of Guinea, and the Mascarene Islands. In addition, Madagascar is granted as a territory for a special state to be created ... "

Zhdanov remembered that Hitler had a "Madagascar" plan to resettle European Jews there with international funding for such a project, and realized what von Kersdorf meant by a "special state" ... Hm, he continued

reading:

"... England loses, apart from Gibraltar, the islands of Cyprus, Malta, Socotra and Perim (passes to Italy), all of its colonies in Africa. England

gives: a) Italy -

the northern part of the former English Sudan, British Somalia and, possibly, Aden; b) a completely independent

Boer state from England - the territory of the former Union of South Africa; c) Germany and the states under its protection - all the

other colonies: Gambia, Sierra Leone, Gold Coast, Nigeria, southern Sudan and, of course, also taken from Germany in the past ... Kenya, Uganda, the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, Seychelles and Amirante islands ... Egypt, together with the Suez Canal zone, being an independent state in itself, will be under the tutelage of Italy, just as it

has been under the tutelage of England until now ...

Part of the former Belgian Congo should also go to the main German colony, namely that part with the copper-ore region of Katanga, which adjoins ... to German East Africa and Northern Rhodesia ...

Since Holland is one of the states that in the future in one form or another will also be under the protection of Germany, then in the region of the islands,

located in Asia and Australia and previously owned by Germany or the Netherlands, at our disposal and at the disposal of our client states will be a second, very valuable colonial area ...

This second colonial region in the Far East

should be organized in the same way as Central Africa ...

"

Zhdanov looked up from the text and put the paper aside... "Yes, the scope is wide," he thought, "however, he does not take into account Japan, and it's understandable - this is still June 40, even before the conclusion of the Tripartite Pact ... But , in any case, there is no smell of Haushofer here ... Old planter! Japan in his time was still a weak factor, and even hostile, tied to the British and America ... "

And Stalin's ally again looked down at the glossy sheets photo paper. Von Kerswante wrote:

"As for the rest of the British possessions, in addition to Ireland and the Boer Republic of South Africa, Australia with New Zealand and Canada should also receive complete independence and independence from England. The Falkland Islands should have been returned to Argentina, British Honduras - Nicaragua ... In any case, England would still have colonial possessions,

which would be more than enough to cover its own needs for raw materials ... And this even if In the Middle East, England would have to give up in favor of independent Arab states also all the Arab territories hitherto occupied by her, including Palestine, Transjordan, Kuwait and the Bahrain Islands ... The sketches I have made above are aimed primarily at showing what Germany should demand in the upcoming peace negotiations from their former

opponents ... "

Zhdanov read a little more and interrupted again ... The paper was interesting, and it is clear why Hitler decided to show it. Without Russia, all these arguments are written with a pitchfork over the seas and oceans, although so far for us all this is far exotic ... Well, here we have to think ... Indeed, we need to think! Corswant transfers Calais and Dunkirk from France to Belgium, leaves India to England, and the Japanese predict it to us ... Although we must also ask the Indians themselves - what they want! There is not a word about America here ... Yes, and Fr. us - nothing ... But this, as he himself writes, is sketches ... And here he talks about several powerful military and economic centers in the future in all parts of the world. So what about us, about Japan and the USA, he still does not forget between the lines ... Okay, let's move on ... And Zhdanov read, getting carried away more and more:

“Ownership is a must! In contrast to the plutocratic idea of the exploitation of the peoples expressed in Pax britanica, the Fuehrer's great task will be to act not only for the good of his people (as England has hitherto done), but also, with the self-evident respect for his own interests. strive with all their energy to satisfy the just vital interests of other peoples. First of all, of course, this applies to European countries ...

“Workers of all classes, unite in the joint struggle of all workers against the robbers” - this is roughly the slogan with which Adolf Hitler attracted the German people to his side (the emphasis is mine everywhere. - **S.K.**). With this slogan, the Fuhrer will win the gratitude of all the peoples of the earth. And at this stage of the transformation of the whole world... **it is a question of once and for all, for the benefit of the whole people, to put an end to it. It is necessary to promote the liquidation of the private monopolies of the** monopolies... **predatory plutocratic states of the financial oligarchy throughout the world...**”

Zhdanov read and read ... And thoughts multiplied. Zhdanov knew that in the NSDAP there were quite a few "steaks" - the former "red" ones, now covered with a "brown" crust on top. But the old planter was clearly never "red". But he thought... He thought quite acceptable - if we mean the desire to eliminate the "plutocracy". Of course, such a document could have been concocted specifically for the Russians... But then they would definitely hook us somehow... But no! It looks like a genuine document, for internal needs. And this is interesting!

* * *

ANDREY Andreevich took von Korsvant's memorandum to Moscow - Hitler himself invited Zhdanov to take him with him.

"I hope Herr Stalin and Herr Molotov will read this," the Fuhrer said bluntly. After getting

acquainted with the memorandum, Stalin said to Zhdanov: -

That's what I was thinking when I read this, Andrei Andreyevich ... The world is wider than our ideas about it. I have never been further than Berlin, London and Stockholm, and what did I see in that London in the heat of the congress! Well, in nine hundred and seven he lived in Berlin for three months, in Vienna in nine hundred and thirteen - a month, went to Krakow to Lenin ... Not enough! And for people like this Korsvant, the planet is like a native village. And this develops a special look... In some ways, this "background" is naive... But in some ways, it turns out that we are naive too. They hoped to turn the

whole planet over in one fell swoop! Stalin smiled sadly and recited sadly: "We will fan the world fire on the mountain to all bourgeois" ... Do you remember, Andrey, how the boys sang? And you can't inflate it so easily ... And is

it necessary? Stalin thought for a

moment, then continued: "It was with some difficulty that we convinced Russia that the power of Labor is better than the power of Capital... And to convince Africa!" Perhaps it's really better to develop it together with the Germans - at least somehow ... And, strengthening ourselves, influence the Germans in t

including in the colonies. Otherwise, if you pull a carrot by the tail, it will not grow faster, and the tail can be torn off ... - I thought about it

myself, - Zhdanov replied. - And, frankly, about the same thing ... If everything goes as we would like, then both they and we have a lot of internal peace work ahead. But there will be a lot of external. - Right! Things are spinning... And one can already see the outlines

of some new policy and plans regarding Turkey, Iraq, Iran, Egypt, India, Afghanistan... - Yes, Comrade Stalin! And everywhere the real option is not conflict, but mutual benefit. - Yes ... With our common

policy with the Germans and - also you can't discount - the Italians ... And then the positions of the British metropolis are undermined ...

Stalin approached the world map, moved to its right edge and said:

— And one more thing — Japan... How to be here? On the one hand, we should help here too, but so far there is not enough strength, and they have not given us real guarantees ...

— South Sakhalin? Zhdanov asked. "And the Northern Kuriles," the leader answered him. And then, without transition, he added: "Andrei

Andreyevich, I was informed that a certain Max Vasmer is coming to Moscow.

- And who is this?

"They are

certifying him as a prominent Slavic linguist... You will accept him yourself and warn me that I would also like to accept him for a short conversation... All this is quite opportune..."



Max Vasmer was indeed a major lexicologist and etymologist, known for his studies of the influence of the Greek language into Slavic ... Before the war, he worked at one time in New York, and in 1940 he returned from the "citadel of democracy" to his Berlin

university and now - came to Russia, for the first time in my life. And now it was accepted by Stalin.

Flattered by Stalin's attention, the German was a little embarrassed, but soon got used to it and enthusiastically told: - I

am now working, Herr Stalin, on an etymological dictionary of the Russian language and I consider this work the main goal of my scientific activity ... I dreamed about it at the beginning of the century! Stalin

nodded: - This is

a very important job, Mr. Vasmer, and we will help you with everything you need in it. We are also finishing the last volume of the dictionary of the modern Russian language ... Soon we will publish it. — Oh, Herr Stalin? Do you have time to look after such

trifles?

— These are not trifles, Mr. Vasmer! Especially since... Of course, you don't know, but the idea of creating a new dictionary belongs to Vladimir Ilyich Lenin... - Is it really so? - Yes ...

He admired Dahl's

dictionary, but he saw that it was becoming obsolete for living life ... And even during the Civil War he began to fiddle with our scientists ... - Colossal!

“Let's make a deal, Mr.

Vasmer!” Now I

will start to tease you... We will wait for your dictionary and will be ready to publish it when it is ready, including translation into Russian.

The calm in Europe was still not broken ... But the naval war continued, and its tension and scope grew. While the Wehrmacht did not need a lot of fuel, and the Luftwaffe was still busy only in naval operations. In addition, Arab oil was now going to the Reich. The possibilities of the "axis" grew, and the British on the Island, on the contrary, had to move on to the most severe economy, which was already very tough. This did not add popularity to the war inside Britain.

The Reich, having occupied the Atlantic islands, not without success complicated deliveries from the USA to England, and the Yankees and the British tried to block

the communications of the Germans. Sometimes it came to curiosities ... There was a powerful radio station on the small fishing island of St. Pierre near Newfoundland. The island, like the neighboring island of Miquelon, belonged to France and was controlled by the Vichy administration ... The British and the Americans and Canadians feared that the weather reports from St. Pierre and other information from there would be useful to German submarines and raiders, and decided to take the islands under their control. But then General de Gaulle reared up, demanding that the operation be entrusted to him - they say, the French island should be occupied by the French ... And then he decided to confront the allies with a fact and sent the Free French naval forces under the flag

of Admiral Emile Muselier to seize the islands . Muselier complied with the order, but now the allies bit the bit from such self-will, and it ended with the general putting the admiral under arrest. Well, as the French themselves say:

"In the war, as in the war ..."

But these were, of course, trifles. The important thing was that, despite all the African victories of the Reich, there was no clarity in the overall situation. The way from Southeast Asia became more and more difficult for the Germans - there was now a war going on there too. It was necessary to look for safe supply routes, and one was obvious - the Russian

Northern Sea Route. It was still winter, but February was inevitably followed by March. Even in the Arctic, it was time to prepare for summer navigation, and Schulenburg turned to Molotov with a request to organize the escort of ice caravans from Japanese ports to Europe and vice versa. Molotov did not mind, and soon the head of the Northern Sea Route, Admiral Papanin, was already mastering German. Like everything else, he did it quickly, although his German colleagues and Russian translators were horrified by his barbaric "oh-deutsch".

Papanin was not embarrassed: "Do I understand them?" Understand! Do they understand me? Understand! Well, so what the hell do you, brothers, still need

I'm not going to do...

The former Baltic sailor was, of course, right. The main thing was in business. And it was

done! Goering has already been to Moscow twice. He said to Tevosyan: - In the future, we can trade with South America with the help of giant airships with shells filled with helium ... We Germans have vast experience in building airships. As far as I know, thanks to your Kapitsa, you have a large production of helium. Putting it all together...

- Why not? - Tevosyan answered him with a cheerful Armenian-German accent. But there

was one topic that neither the Russians nor the Germans even touched upon. To discover here even a simple interest meant giving the partner information for very undesirable reflections. And that topic was atomic research. They went in America, in England, and even - on the sly, in France, went in Russia and Japan. They also went to the Reich, and it would be surprising if the homeland of Heisenberg, the homeland of Hahn and Strassmann, who discovered the effect of the fission of uranium-235,

would remain on the sidelines here ... For the first two or three years after the discovery of Hahn and Strassmann, Germany was ahead of the West in nuclear research . Yes, and German physicists turned to the leadership of the Reich before others - Professor Paul Harteck and Dr. Wilhelm Groth in 1939 sent a letter to the Ministry of Arms, the end of which looked

"The country that is the first to be able to practically master the achievements of nuclear physics will gain absolute superiority over others."

And already on September 20, 1939, the "Preliminary work program for the initial experiments on the use of nuclear fission" was drawn up ... And soon one of the buildings in the courtyard of the Kaiser Wilhelm Physical Institute in Berlin received the code name "Virus Wing". A German nuclear reactor was supposed to start working there. Nevertheless, things were not going

very smoothly for the Germans - they relied on "heavy" water as a neutron moderator and

discarded graphite. And that was the biggest mistake. In

the USSR, the entire 41st year was also hard work. At the Ukrainian Institute of Physics and Technology in the village of Pyatikhatki near Kharkov, by October, encouraging results were obtained. The young professor Igor Kurchatov, a friend of Professor Khariton, was appointed the scientific director of the problem. However, there has not yet been a single work center.

Beria worked with Kurchatov surprisingly quickly, and, supervising Merkulov's People's Commissariat of State Security through the Council of People's Commissars, he was aware of how the Anglo-Saxons work on both sides of the Atlantic. And here the work of the Special Group of Intelligence General Vasily Zarubin successfully complemented the work of Igor Kurchatov. In February 1942, Beria

reported to Stalin: "In England, atomic work is expanding, but they don't have enough strength ... In France, Joliot-Curie is working secretly from the Germans, but so far everything is at the

level of pure

science ..." And the Germans? - There is no clarity with the Germans, but it is unlikely that they have advanced further than

us, which means that they are far from the end ... - America? "America is working on the atom in earnest, and now work is being done there with might and main. And they are pulling in the British

nuclear scientists. Churchill sniffs, but agrees ... - In a hurry? - They are in a hurry ... And there is something from ... And the British are a good help for them. But there is a blessing in

disguise - in that English group that flew to America, there is our

man. - Scientist? Stalin asked

in a captious tone. — Yes... — Englishman? Communist? — No, a German... An émigré... Not a communist, but they assure me that he is a good guy... He

doesn't like capitalists... And he already gives valuable information... — And

who evaluates its quality and veracity? Kurchatov, Comrade Stalin. And how does he

- As the most important ... We are now going, as it were, second in
ski...

- It is necessary to bypass - no matter how hard it is ... -
Maybe it's too early, Comrade Stalin? The costs are huge! - No,
Lavrenty, it's probably not too early ... Here's what - prepare a meeting with
Kurchatov. Let's listen to you, think... And we'll decide something.

HOWEVER, the European Theater was still quiet. But the Japanese rolled
across Southeast Asia like an avalanche ... On January 2, 1942, they entered the
capital of the Philippines - Manila. And on February 15,
Singapore fell. Singapore! The
22nd Air

Flotilla of the Japanese Navy made the first raid on it on December 8, 1941.
But the battles for the fortress of Singapore did not last long - from February 8 to
15, despite the fact that on January 10, Churchill declared that Singapore was
impregnable. He had reasons for this, but the city of Singapore, located on the
coast of the southern part of the island of Singapore, had defenses only from the
sea and began to fortify from land only after the start of the war. From the Malacca
Peninsula, the island is separated from the north by a chain of narrow - about a
kilometer - long straits, and Singapore is connected by a dam through the Strait of
Johor by rail with Malacca in the Johor Bahru region. The rapid capture of Malaya
predetermined the rapid fall of Singapore. And at the very end of February, a battle
took place between the Japanese and allied

squadrons in the Java Sea off the coast of Java Island ... In the battle near
Surabaya on February 27, 1942, the British lost two cruisers, and the next day in
the battle near Batavia, the Exeter cruiser and two destroyers. The American
cruiser Houston, the Australian cruiser Perth and the Dutch destroyer Evertsen
were sunk.

Confusion reigned among the allies. Formed on January 4, 1942, the
American-British-Dutch-Australian command did not receive the nickname
"Quartet" solely because Ivan Krylov's fables were not known in the southern
seas. But events unfolded quite

according to Krylov. And when the situation in the Java region became more complicated, the Yankees and the British simply left the Dutch to the mercy of fate and the Japanese. Even before that, four American destroyers left the allied formation in the midst of the fighting under the pretext of a lack of fuel and torpedoes, although they could, and even had to, be replenished here,

in Java - in Batavia. On March 8, 1942, the Japanese captured the capital of Burma - Rangoon. It became possible to block the Burmese road from India to China. On March 12, the occupation of the Dutch Indies was completed.

And yet, Japanese success could become as fragile for the victors as the African triumphs for the Fuhrer and Duce. Only the timely support of Russia could provide them with stability and prospects, and this was understood in all the capitals of the world. So, although the delay for Russia was not like death, the refusal to take decisive action was fraught for her with the loss of a long-term historical perspective. In November 1940 in Berlin, Hitler warned Molotov that the issue of countering the Yankees as the main threat to the free development of peoples is a matter of 1970, 1980 and even 2000 ... However, much has changed since then, all processes have accelerated. And Stalin increasingly understood that the time of the USSR's entry into the war was a matter of the near future. The Anglo-Saxons had to be preempted before they could deploy the entire military potential of the United States. However, the Yankees had unforeseen difficulties.

The production of combat aircraft went up sharply, however, in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, the military destruction conveyor stopped, and the "overstocking" of "finished products" immediately began. There was a crisis of overproduction of military "goods" ... The war with the Japanese did not help much either - an excess of weapons still accumulated. Indeed, the plans for military production also took into account future deliveries of weapons to Russia, which was at war with the Reich, and in this column it was necessary to put a dash. Losses were found instead of profits. And the Yankees felt worse and worse - having conceived a war and provoked a war in the name of profits, Golden Capital, due to lost profits, could lose not only the war. He could lose the whole planet, which came another March. March has arrived in Europe.

And over the continent, over the English Channel and over the English Isle
the spring fogs of 1942 began to thicken ...

Chapter 19

The spring of 1942 was foggy and rainy in Europe. And in the spring haze over Paris and London, over Moscow and Berlin, over Bern and Madrid, an attentive observer could discern the contours of a very different future world. Through the foggy distance of the coming decades, mankind could see young Germans, together with Russian and American peers, conquering the peaks of the Pamirs and flying to the moon ... Or - the son of a Chinese coolie, who, together with the son of a Japanese fisherman, graduated from the University of Berlin and was busy, again, together with him, research in the Cambridge laboratory ... You could see cheerful green cities and world resorts filled with vacationing working people, and not the "golden boys" from the Golden Families. Actually, in this world there were no such "families" ...

Through the distance of the coming years, one could see the Planet of the true Golden Age for all - the Planet of the year 2000, freed from the fever of wars, from the scab of enmity and from the abscesses of the stock exchanges ... The planet, busy with the friendly common work of peoples freed from the power of gold and capital, from inhuman greed those who replaced a living human soul with a crisp bank check. However, one

could see in the haze of the future another, completely different version of the year 2000 - the Planet of the Golden Billion, a planet for the elite and their servants ... There were the same resorts, but occupied by bankers from Singapore and New York, couturier from France and mafiosi from Italy, mine owners from Zaire and Brazil, oil sultans from Indonesia and the Emirates, corrupt top models, rock and movie stars, investors from India and Hong Kong, newspaper magnates from England and Australia, industrial magnates from America, Germany, Taiwan, gangsters from politicians and just bandits from "Rossiyanin", electronic "kings" from Japan and hereditary kings of various calibers and skin colors ...

In the gaps in the mists of History one could see one, then another future world, their contours were smeared by the winds of History - also future ones, and nothing definite could be said yet. So far, one thing was clear - the Planet was seething ***unparalleled***. And which of the two possible worlds will eventually become a reality could already be decided by this - coming into its full rights - 1942.

Particularly foggy - as it should be - was the London spring. And the English Isle was shrouded at once by all the fogs: meteorological, political, social... Long before the war, the elite of England was divided into cosmopolitan Churchillists and nationalist anti-Churchillists, and it remained divided. But the Churchillites were in power. Almost five years ago, on June 8, 1937, "Zionist No. 1" Chaim Weizmann hosted a dinner party in honor of Churchill, at which, among a variety of elite guests

(others, however, were not invited), were the millionaire industrialist and politician Leopold Emery, leader of the Labor Party Attlee, James Rothschild ... The unfading parliamentary "lion" Lloyd George was absent,

but sent a welcome letter.

It was Weizmann who started talking about Palestine, reproaching the two former ministers of the colonies present at the table - Churchill and Emery: - Alas, gentlemen, you have not

solved this problem ...), and strong drinks and thumped like

it is:

Yes, we are all to blame! He

fixed his small eyes on Weizmann and went on

to be frank: - You are

our master! And mine, and, - Churchill waved his hand at the others sitting at the table, - and theirs ... And - theirs ... As you say, so be it! There were no objections, and Weizmann smiled smugly.

And Churchill finished pouring out in devotion like this: - If you order us to fight, we will fight like

tigers...



Almost five years have passed since that dinner. Churchill diligently fulfilled his promise to the Golden Cosmopolitans, and the British imperial lion fought for their interests "like a tiger". But this did not suit everyone in England - even among the "top". Say, forty-five-year-old Sir Oswald, 6th Baronet Mosley is an athlete, a graduate of the same military college in Sandhurst as Churchill, a lancer, a participant in the First World War, a parliamentarian, Lord Curzon's son-in-law, a minister in Macdonald's cabinet and, finally, the leader of the British "blackshirts" - he did not rejoice at the war with the Reich. Mosley was a staunch anti-communist - like Churchill, but, unlike Churchill, he was also an English

nationalist, like King Edward VIII, who came to the throne in January 1936, after the death of George V ... (Churchill then dashed off an obituary article and received 1000 pounds of honorarium - double the annual salary of a parliamentarian). Edward, unlike the late George V, did not want to be a mere pawn in the hands of the Churchills, who were pawns in the hands of the Weizmanns. Edward was inclined to appeal

to the masses, advocated economic and social reforms, admired the successes of Germany and was known as a "fascist" among the Golden Cosmopolitans. Therefore, Edward, although he was popular with the common people, did not last long - soon he was "put in sight" of marrying a divorced American woman, Wallis Simpson, and on December 11 of the same 1936, Edward recanted. The text of the abdication was written by "ardently devoted to the monarch" Churchill.

On May 12, 1937, Edward's brother George VI was crowned. Churchill also expressed "loyal devotion" to him. It cost nothing to Sir Winston, but to the Weizmanns and the Rothschilds, Sir Winston's devotion - with his wide lifestyle - cost a pretty penny. George VI did not claim more than the traditional royal representation, and

was ready in advance to reign, but not to rule. The Mosley line was crossed out, and England, almost bucking under Edward, again dutifully went to a future war with the Reich, which was now being waged for the third year now.

HOWEVER, now the position of Churchill and the Churchillites was becoming more and more precarious - even ordinary Londoners, most affected by the war, grumbled, dissatisfied with the fact that Sir Winston did not want to hear about an attempt to negotiate with the Germans, Italians, and even with the Japanese, not forgetting that in The Quadruple Union already includes Russia. Churchill had to take risks and go for broke ... His ground forces shrank like shagreen leather, but the fleets were still strong - sea and air. With air forces, Churchill could not only hold back blows, but also deliver them - America delivered many more "flying fortresses" to England through the barriers of the German blockade. And Churchill made up his mind! In March 1942, the Royal Air Force carried out a devastating bombardment of Lübeck, and at the very beginning of April, Rostock. These two raids, provided with new radar navigation aids, were supposed to be the prologue of a massive raid on Cologne. It was planned for the end

May...

The losses in the previous two raids had become threatening, but Churchill had no choice but to collect and collect more and more new cards, counting either on the enemy's mistake, or on an unexpected trump ace. In addition, the new commander of the Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Harris, received scientific support from the physicist Lord Cherwell. A native of Baden-Baden, a graduate of the Berlin Institute of Physics and Chemistry, Frederik Alexander Lindemann, during the First World War, headed

the Physics Laboratory of the Royal Air Force, and after the war, the Claderon Laboratory in Oxford. In 1941, Churchill's personal friend, a member of his military cabinet, Professor Lindemann received the title of 1st Baron Cherwell. It was this baron who did the calculations, which Harris called simple, clear and convincing. "Total bombardments of 58 largest German cities within 15 months will break the spirit of the German people," Cherwell-Lindemann, proud of his methods, told his colleagues at Oxford.

"But, professor," they objected, "if this plan realize, Germany will turn into a desert!

"Gentlemen, the prime minister and the air chief marshal have set me a specific task – quite, I assure you, methodically non-trivial... And I solved it!" I call this method "carpet bombing".



So on May 30, 1942, 1046 aircraft of His Majesty were to head for Cologne. In the professor's imagination, clouds of smoke were already hanging over the ancient German city with a population of eight hundred thousand ... Fire tornadoes ascended straight to the sky, carrying up the ancient molecules of the two spiers of the famous Cologne Cathedral and the University, founded in 1388. The bombs of Lord Cherwell - so far only in his calculations - turned the most densely populated residential central quarters into a dusty "carpet", practically without touching the industrial outskirts - still, after all, apart from the factories of "I. G. Farbenindustri" in Leverkusen, Ford's automobile plants were also located in Cologne. But the British could not make this massive raid - in the April and May raids, the Royal Air Force suffered unexpectedly huge

losses, and by the end of May, the British bomber (and fighter) forces were exhausted.

Churchill's intensification of the air war against Germany did not lead to the intensification of Germany's air war against England. The Fuhrer took into account the mistake of 1940 and did not try to break the spirit of the British through air terror. Instead of raids, the Germans launched balloons with leaflets towards England at night with a fair wind. There weren't many words.

Churchill and Roosevelt - this is war!

The peoples need peace, and Germany, together with her allies, offers the people of England immediate peace. Better look at each other

friend through the negotiating table than through the slit of the sight! The Germans will not come to England to enslave the English.

We will come for peace for ourselves and for you.

Churchill - resign!

War - resign!

These leaflets have been
read. After reading it, they thought gloomily.

And by the beginning of the summer of 1942, the factor of the Soviet Union unfolded in all its might. Major changes have taken place. The Third Five-Year Plan was ending, and not just the Fourth Five-Year Plan began, but a new history of the new Russia began. The Red

Army was amazed at itself. For a year - from the spring of the 41st to the spring of the 42nd - she was so overgrown with armor and intensified by fire that sometimes even her commanders could not believe it. That line of fortified areas, which was called the "Stalin Line" back in the days when it existed only on paper, was now practically built, and weapons were brought there. By the beginning of 1942, a personal correspondence had been firmly established between the Fuhrer and Stalin, and Stalin wrote in May:

"This summer we are commissioning a new system of fortified areas. Let this fact not disturb you - fortifications are not built in order to advance ... This is only insurance against any surprises ... And insurance, as I would like to think, is also for you, Herr Hitler. As I can guess, even today not everyone in Germany is satisfied with the new relationship between

us, and I hope that our URs will help you, Herr Hitler, to contain such negative sentiments.

On the other hand, we can now seriously think about organizing a strike against British India and helping you strike at Britain itself ... In addition, we are ready to help Japan with armored vehicles and even aircraft - subject to the favorable development of our relations.

Technique is now really enough! The troops had eight thousand T-34s with well-trained crews, three thousand KB and more than a thousand of the latest Joseph Stalin heavy tanks. New aircraft entered the Air Force in the thousands, machine guns and machine guns in the infantry - hundreds of thousands. New airborne corps were formed, where each paratrooper had up to a dozen

jumps. We increasingly generously shared weapons with the Reich. In the winter, seven hundred new anti-aircraft guns were sent to Germany, and on April 20, Stalin congratulated Hitler on his birthday for the third time and - as he wrote in a letter - presented the Fuhrer with a personal gift in the form of another five hundred and

thirty anti-aircraft guns: ten for each lived year. In early May, Russia openly delivered to the Reich five hundred and thirty high-speed high-altitude air defense fighters MiG-3. As a result, Professor Lindemann's "carpet" raids were quickly curtailed, never to unfold again.

The prospects for the British Empire were also curtailed, and the Yankees themselves intended to archive it. Actually, back on December 10, 1940, the President of the Council of the National Industrial Conference of the United States, Virgil Jordan, spoke in Washington before a select

audience: - Gentlemen! As a result of this war, Britain will be so impoverished and her prestige will suffer so much that it is unlikely that she will be able to restore or maintain the dominant position in world politics that she has occupied for so long ...

Jordan spoke confidently and assertively, and a tall one - more than six feet, grey-haired, imposing, majestic, beautifully dressed (albeit in a somewhat old-fashioned style) gentleman in pince-nez and with a leash of a hearing aid running down from his ear ... The gentleman had a reputation

economic dictator of the United States since World War I, when he was chairman of the War Industries Board under President Wilson. Now he played about the same role under President Roosevelt and was considered all-powerful.

His name was Bernard Baruch... This Jewish millionaire was considered by many to be just a clever swindler and even a figurehead. However, this swindler was of a planetary scale, and the highest Golden Cosmopolitans walked in his masters. And this made Baruch not only a dummy, but also a confidant, introduced him on an equal footing into an elected, narrow circle. And it goes without saying that under any president he is a member of the White House.

When Baruch did not want to hear anything, he did simply - he turned off his hearing aid. But now he was listening to Jordan very carefully. And one could only regret that this speech - unlike President Roosevelt's fireside conversations or Prime Minister Churchill's heartfelt public speeches - was not broadcast to the general English masses. There were people in the hall, so Jordan said without hesitation: - At best, England will become a junior partner in the system of the new Anglo-Saxon imperialism,

the center of gravity of which will be the economic resources and military and naval power of the United States. The scepter of power passes to us, gentlemen!



A year and a half has passed ... As a result of the war, England was impoverished, America was becoming richer. Even workers in the United States received something from the war besides rising prices - the war was far away, but unemployment was declining, and wages had not yet fallen. Military orders were distributed among the first hundred largest firms, and the increase in dividends amounted to hundreds of percent. But even in the American economy, disruptions could just about begin - after all, "plethora" came from an excess of bad, military, "blood". England, waging war, was a saving agent, helping to drain excess blood. But England also became a burden.

The head of Chase Manhattan Bank and Standard Oil, David Rockefeller, held a meeting with his closest colleagues. In addition to their own - the Rockefeller family and longtime, closest adviser Ivy Lee - there were the Morgans with the patriarch - John Pierpont, Jr., the Du Ponts from General Motors and Dupont de Nemours, the Warburgs, Schiffs and Kays from the hereditary anti-Russian banking group Kuhn, Loeb and Co., former US envoy to Sweden, millionaire Morehead... There

were also the Dulles brothers, influential Jews Henry Morgenthau and Jeffrey Sachs from the White House, there was Bernard Baruch... There was the patriarch of German financial enslavement Owen Jung from

General Electric. The papal nuncio sat modestly in the semi-darkness. And **the most** influential and **most** powerful, for the general public and even for politicians, were hiding in the semi-darkness - although there was no one to hide from anyone - nameless. Those whose uncounted billions were secretly scattered around all these "Standard ..." and "General ...".

Rockefeller did not hide his anxiety: - Gentlemen! This century started out great for us - we managed to pit the Russians against the Germans and conducted the war in Europe in an exemplary manner. Then everything went smoothly too ... First, the Dawes plan was adopted, then, - here the speaker bowed slightly in the direction of the gray-haired Jung, - the Young plan. We financed the revival of Germany and successfully penetrated into its economy... We again successfully pitted Russians and Germans... Finally, we collected almost all the gold of the world here in the New World, laid a solid foundation for our future and provided the conditions for a new war - this one. Its main result should be the final power of those who can make money, who make money and who have money ...

An approving whisper ran through those listening to him: David was famous for his ability to "give out a phrase," and the phrase was really good. The revival, however, immediately subsided - everyone knew that things were not fun now, which Rockefeller recalled:

"Unfortunately, gentlemen, failures continued ...

Rockefeller looked sternly at the Dulles brothers, as if they were the main culprits. Others looked at them, and

Rockefeller frowned even more.

- Yes, failures began ... The Russians and the Germans were able to agree ... But in 1939 they found a common border, and one could hope that one of them would cross this border ... Hitler had to attack, the Russians had to take the brunt of the battles ... The result would be their mutual exhaustion... Instant approval rustled through the audience again. - The resistance of

England, combined with the resistance of the Russians, should have given us time to prepare ... Last year was supposed to be the year of the war between Hitler and Stalin ... It has passed, and instead of the Germans in Moscow, we have the Germans in Suez, gentlemen ... David looked around at everyone with a hard look. Where is the exit, gentlemen? There was a heavy silence in response. Sax's voice cut through the silence:
"Gentlemen! We need to speed up the work on the A-Bomb...

==

The hope for an absolute weapon became more and more the main hope of the Golden Elite.

Time was pressing.

And then there was Japan.

* * *

In 1921, Admiral Kojiro Sato published the book *If Japan and America Go to War*. And there he wrote:

"Our empire, both geographically and historically, has a mission to develop in every way on the continent ... This will not be aggression at all. If its continental development is hampered, its very existence would be endangered...as its roots extend to the continent...Meanwhile, America is cruelly

is trying to cut off these roots and implement his imperialism on the East Asian continent in the place of Japan ... "

Sato was not so right - like Germany in Europe, Japan in Asia in the most convincing - economic - way showed and proved its ability to rapidly develop and expand its influence. Japan did not have colonies, it had to withstand unfair competition from the Anglo-Saxons, but Japan developed, in dire need of only one thing - raw materials. And the owners of raw materials in Asia were not Asian peoples, but white aliens ... Now the Japanese have taken possession of the tin mines of Malaya, Malayan rubber,

Laokai phosphates of Indochina, Philippine copper of Lepanto ... Control over shipping in Singapore passed to Mitsubishi, as did Singaporean shipyards. The shipyards in Hong Kong became the property of Mitsui... The place of US monopolies in Asia was occupied by Japanese concerns - "zaibatsu", but in East and Southeast Asia, new relations nevertheless arose. In Tokyo, the Ministry of "Great East Asian Affairs" was created, the purpose of which was proclaimed "a single equal union of Asian peoples under the leadership of Japan." In Thailand, the Philippines, Burma, the Japanese willingly relied on local nationalists, because they were completely opposed to the British and the Yankees. But they quite welcomed the Japanese slogan "Asia for Asians." China was a separate article... The most serious force there was Chiang Kai-shek. Sly Chan was not a staunch enemy of Japan - he flirted with her a lot and often. However, in the end he

leaned towards the Anglo-Saxons, although he received considerable help at one time from Russia. Only from 1937 to the beginning of 1941, the USSR delivered to Chan 904 aircraft, 82 tanks, 602 tractors, 1516 cars, 1140 guns, 9720 machine guns, 50 thousand rifles, 180 million cartridges, 2 million shells, military property, materials, fuel. There were 3,665 of our advisers, instructors, pilots, technicians, and drivers in China. Former young army commander from the Western

military district Vasily Chuikov held a post under Chiang Kai-shek

chief Soviet military adviser.

At the beginning of 1942, Chuikov was recalled, and our supplies to the Chongqing government of Chiang ceased. Against the backdrop of a general deterioration in Anglo-Saxon affairs, America was not happy about this, although Chiang had long expressed his readiness to orient himself towards the United States. On December 19, 1941, an Anglo-American-Chinese conference was held in Chongqing - without any special results, however. There, at the "tip" of an American, Lieutenant General George Brett, Chiang proposed to the British commander-in-chief in the Pacific theater of operations, Sir Archibald Wavell, to send two Chinese corps to Burma to help two British divisions. Wavell refused such a generous gift. And he was understandable - he rightly regarded the Kuomintang troops in Burma as a conductor of American influence. This influence finally took shape in March 1942, when the mission of General Stilwell arrived in Chongqing. Nearly sixty-

year-old Joseph Stilwell, a West Point graduate and the son of a businessman, had a good knowledge of Chinese and local conditions - he first came to China in 1920 and since then spent more than a dozen years there intermittently, from 1935 to 1939 he was a military attaché at Chiang ... Now Stilwell was on his way to China to appoint him (formally - on the orders of Chiang Kai-shek) chief of the general staff of the armed forces of the Kuomintang. At the same time, he flew to long-familiar places as a controller - thieving Kuomintang officials strove to release materials coming to China under Lend-Lease from the United States "to the left." And Stilwell's officers were called upon to somehow restrain these unstoppable thieves.

On March 8, 1942, two days before Stilwell's "Chinese" appointment, Rangoon, the capital of Burma, fell, and the British began to retreat northward in disarray. Only then the 5th and 6th Chinese armies were urgently transferred to Burma, but this did not save the situation - in mid-May, the remnants of the British divisions and the Chinese units under the command of Stilwell retreated across the border to the territory of India along the winding Burma mountain road. Burma was completely in the hands of the Japanese troops.

In India, for the first time in the "English" period of its history, there were, besides English, non-English troops. The fact that defeated Chinese soldiers appeared there was, of course, a trifle. It was not a trifle that the Chinese troops retreating to Indian territory included Yankees, and their numbers in India began to increase, as did US interference in Indian affairs in general. Soon, Grady's American technical mission appeared in Delhi, which began to survey the country's potential.

Back in 1940, John McCormick, in *America and World Domination*, stated:

“As England weakens, the United States must become stronger. As England's power over the world shrinks, so must US dominion; where English dominance ends, American dominion must begin.”

McCormick was read not only in Washington, and the American "application" to stay in India did not please London. Yes, and in general, in this spring of 1942, little was pleasing ...

However, the Yankees themselves were not happy with the general course of world affairs ... Suddenly Chiang Kai-shek began to wag. He realized that he had missed and made a bet "on the wrong horse." Foreign Minister Guo Taiqi was dismissed for "haste" in declaring war on Japan, Germany and Italy, and to Guilin to negotiate with Chiang's emissary Huang Xuchui secretly the Japanese emissary Kurota arrived.

In Moscow at that time it was difficult to make a decision about a Russian campaign in India.

Emperor Paul also aspired to INDIA. He perfectly understood all the possibilities that India, separated from the Britons, would give Russia in her opposition to England. As you know, the "Englishwoman" has long spoiled Russia wherever possible and where not. And just in the Pavlovian era, Russian patriots were indignant about England

especially violently and very openly ... On December 5, 1800, our heroic sailor and traveler Ivan Kruzenshtern, who knew the "Englishwoman" not from stories, but from an internship in the English fleet, advised Admiral de Ribas in a letter:

"To curb England, it is necessary to assemble a light squadron of several ships and send it to the Azores; large ships to intercept, and small ones just to sink!

Excellent advice!

On January 14, 1801, Paul himself wrote to the first consul of the Republic, Bonaparte:

"There is no doubt that the two great powers (Prussia was not seriously listed then. - **S.K.**), having established agreement among themselves, will have a positive impact on the rest of Europe."

Later, the enemies of the Russian cause will present the Russian emperor as crazy. However, Pavel thought very sensibly and in the same January 1801 ordered the ataman of the Don Army, General Orlov, to be the first to move the Cossack regiments to Orenburg, and there to the southeast, to the foothills of English India, "in order to strike the enemy in his heart." Then twenty-two thousand five hundred and seven men set out on the march, with twelve cannons and twelve unicorns. But on the night of March 11-12, London's agents of influence - Count Palen, General Bennigsen, Nikita Panin and the insignificant Zubov brothers - with a blow of a golden snuffbox to the emperor's temple immediately put a bloody and treacherous end to the possible glorious Indian epic of the Russian troops ...

And with the very first decree new Emperor Alexander I was the decree on the return of Orlov from the Indian expedition. One

hundred and forty years have passed. - Well, Semyon Konstantinovich, shall we follow the path of General Orlov and Emperor Pavel? Stalin asked Timoshenko, People's Commissar for Defense.

Timoshenko stroked his smoothly shaven head and seemed to be thinking. His fate - a peasant and the son of a peasant - was far from the fate of the kings and royal generals. Some of his subordinates, Marshal Shaposhnikov or Major General Govorov, for example, wore golden royal epaulettes until 1917, but Timoshenko himself was then just a non-commissioned officer. But, one way or another, all Soviet generals were familiar with the real war by the summer of 1942 ... The majority knew the First World War and the Civil War, the minority only the Civil War, and someone only "Spanish", "Mongolian", "Finnish" ... Now the hour came to decide on an "Indian" war - against the British and for Indian freedom.

Timoshenko was silent, but did not answer Stalin's question, not because he hesitated. Both Stalin and the people's commissar knew that everything had already been weighed and discussed both in Moscow and in Berlin ... Hitler was pleased with Moscow's readiness for decisive action: a Russian strike on England through India could be, if not the last event of his war with the British, then the penultimate one. The Wehrmacht and the Reich's naval forces in the Middle East were ready to support the Russians from the Persian Gulf. By mid-

May 1942, everything was decided. All that remained was to appoint the commander of the Indian Army Group. And so Stalin watched, waiting for an answer. And Timoshenko, smiling thickly and unusually broadly, answered:

Let's go, Comrade Stalin! -

Who will lead? - I

propose - General Rokossovsky ... - How old?

- Forty-six ...

Former cavalryman ... Clever, fought in the imperialist and Civil, Red Banner, was the commander of the 19th mechanized corps, and now - commander-sixteen ...

- Yes, I know him a little... A good guy, his path is straight... Only he was slandered at one time... - Not him alone, Comrade

Stalin. - Well, well, well ... What is

his name? — Konstantin Konstantinovich.

- Your namesake by patronymic?

Well, then, prepare orders, Semyon.

Konstantinovich! .. And - on Rokossovsky, and ...

Stalin looked at Timoshenko and cheerfully finished: - And -
on a campaign!



To go to India, having an unreliable Reich in the rear, would be a gamble for the Soviet Union. But going to India was now reasonable and expedient. India has long been a jewel in the colonial crown of Britain, but the Indians were not happy about this. In 1858, the Britons brutally suppressed an uprising of the sepoys, the local Sikh warriors who formed the basis of the British forces in India. And after that, the entire economy of the country was finally tied to the needs of the metropolis, and the income from Indian exports made up for the deficit in England's trade with Europe and the United States. In 1875, the official annual per capita income was £2, and the annual number of deaths from starvation until the beginning of the 20th century always exceeded half a million, sometimes doubling.

In 1885, the Indian National Congress, the country's leading nationalist party, was formed. The INC was a purely bourgeois party, because there was no serious political force in India then, except for the Indian propertied strata, claiming their fat piece of the social "pie". This new stratum did not want to return to "pre-European" times in terms of everyday life, organization of life and relations with the outside world. But the Indian bourgeoisie did not want the British diktat, the English claims to the wealth of India. The influence of the Congress grew in all layers, and in the twenties and thirties of the 20th century, the fates of three very different people turned out to be connected with it - Mohandas Gandhi, Jawaharlal Nehru and Subhas Chandra Bose ... Mahatma (literally - "great soul") Gandhi became the leader of the party at the beginning twenties - when he was a little over fifty. Coming from a wealthy family and

educated in England, this lean lawyer had served early in his career as legal counsel for a large Indian trading firm in South Africa. During the Boer War, Gandhi supported the British, was awarded them, and in 1914

returned to his homeland - to agitate for the participation of Indians in the

World War. Gandhi helped the British to recruit recruits, called for donating money for the needs of Britain, etc. But he also became known as the ideologist of the **Satyagraha** program (literally, "perseverance in truth"), that is, non-violent, passive resistance and peaceful persuasion of the British authorities. The British, if not entirely satisfied, were much less frightened than the ideas of active, revolutionary resistance ... Actually, in gradually boiling India, Gandhi played the role of an exhaust valve for dumping excess social discontent. And this was even convenient and useful for the British crown. Pandit (as scientists are called in India)

Nehru was born in 1889 and was twenty years younger than Gandhi, but their common origin from the propertied strata made them related. Little Nehru had his own swimming pool, tennis court, and he studied at Trinity College in Cambridge. Nehru received - like his father Motilal, like Gandhi - a law degree and became, like them, a lawyer. However, he was also fond of Marxism, in 1927 he visited Moscow ... However, for a long time Nehru treated Stalin coolly, as well as the ideas of the Indian revolution, which attracted Gandhi very much, unlike the other leader of the left wing of the National Congress - Chandra Subhas Bose ... Gandhi wrote that between him and Nehru "there are cordial ties that

cannot be broken by any ideological differences" ... But with Bose he did not have a "kinship of souls", which Gandhi himself admitted. After all, Bose didn't have pools in his childhood, just as he didn't have a minister-father, which the mahatma could boast of ... But the babu (leader, father, teacher) Subhas Bose spent many years in English prisons in his own homeland and became, in fact, a national hero. He was close to the circles of the Comintern, sympathized with Soviet Russia, in 1935 he wrote the book "The Struggle of India", and in 1938 - at the age of forty-one - he was elected president of the National Congress, and this strengthened the position of the "left" ... Not everyone liked it, especially since

Bose did not show enthusiasm for the flow of Jewish refugees to India from Europe, but in December 1938 he met with the German consul in Bombay.

Soon a new World War began ... Gandhi and Nehru supported the British, and Bose said that any enemy of Great Britain is a natural ally of the Indian liberation movement and a friend of India. That is why Bose had to sooner or later again fall behind the English bars, because Germany was the enemy of England ...

Babu Bose was a man of ideas and a born fighter, but unlike the British-trained lawyers Gandhi and Nehru, he did not master the art of maneuver. Gandhi quickly provoked a crisis in the party, and Bose resigned from Congress. He founded the left-wing nationalist Forward Block party, and was soon arrested. Bose escaped from prison in 1941... At first he tried to get through Afghanistan to the USSR, but eventually ended up in Berlin. Now, after a conversation with Hitler, he arrived in Moscow, and with the help of Bose, strongholds were created in the regions of India bordering Afghanistan for an early action against the British. Bose's guides were only waiting for a signal to go out to meet the Soviet troops.

By the beginning of May 1942, the Rokossovsky army group advanced to its starting positions for the march through Iran and Afghanistan to the Indus. At the end of May, Babu Subhas Bose arrived in Singapore and at the Congress of Indian Independence promulgated a decree establishing the Provisional Government of Free India ... Then he appeared in Bengal, in Calcutta, and mass demonstrations took place there. The Viceroy of India, Lord Mountbatten, did not dare to shoot them, and Bose returned to Singapore and turned to the USSR with a request for help, and to Japan with a proposal to start peace negotiations.

On May 31, Rokossovsky's troops began to march on Delhi ... The Germans provided us with a western flank and, together with Moscow, obtained Kabul's consent to the passage of the Russians through Afghanistan. In Western Muslim India, they were already waiting for them - the entire Muslim East firmly linked its future with Berlin and Moscow. But they were waiting for

Rokossovsky both in Central India and in the south - in Bengal. The sepoys, who in 1919 refused to oppose Soviet Russia, remained in their garrisons, and part of them moved towards the Russians - not to fight with them, but to unite.

Chiang Kai-shek urgently withdrew his troops from India, and even Gandhi declared that Japan was not at enmity with India, but with the British Empire, and

that England should withdraw from India, and that the first step of a free India would perhaps be negotiations with Japan, since India harbors no enmity towards Japan or any other country... TASS in Moscow issued a statement:

"The Soviet government has always stood on the side of the oppressed peoples fighting for their national independence. True to its internationalist duty, it responded to the call of the Indian people, and the expedition of General Rokossovsky has no other task than to help establish the power of the Indians themselves in India. Since India is neither historically nor geographically nor demographically and culturally part of the historical English nation state, the expedition

general to Rokossovsky can not
be regarded as an act hostile to the sovereign rights of the peoples of Great Britain and is not, in the opinion of the Soviet government, an act of aggression against Great Britain ... "

London did not dare to break off diplomatic relations with Russia, but fell into a state of shock - India was leaving the empire for its own free future. Rokossovsky's tanks approached Delhi, covered with garlands of roses, and soon English Delhi fell ... Rokossovsky, flaunting brand new marshal's buttonholes, arrived in Calcutta, where he spoke at a grand rally along with Chandra Bose. Until 1911,

Calcutta was the capital of India, and now it is regaining its former status. Delhi was a symbol of anglicization and colonization, and this tipped the choice of a free country again in favor of the great city of the Bengalis. Gandhi felt sour - his ideas of non-resistance are new

India has thrown away along with all other colonial tinsel.

Bose was proclaimed president, and Jawaharlal Nehru became prime minister.

Spring had gone, summer had come, and the mists were beginning to dissipate little by little. Our long-term ambassador Ivan Maisky was leaving London for Moscow. The last cipher addressed to him prescribed no special farewells and limited himself exclusively to the minimum prescribed by the protocol.

Maisky was replaced by General Ignatiev. When Moscow asked the Foreign Office for an agreement for his appointment, Eden made a mine that distorted his polished face beyond recognition - Ignatiev was known in London without a biographical certificate attached to the agreement, but London had no reason to refuse. And the former earl, and now a lieutenant general of the Red Army, again, after a long break, walked through the familiar corridors of the Foreign Office and the passages of Buckingham Palace. But now he was greeted here almost as if he had been plagued - Maisky's review looked ominous in the light of what had already happened and could still happen without exaggeration. Ignatiev was received with malice and fear. And soon the Anglo-Saxons lost their most

important agent of influence in Berlin. The first act of the two-act tragicomedy began like this... Intelligence Service recruit Kim Philby has been in Spain for a long time, ever since he received the Red Cross of Merit from Franco's hands. Then Philby was not yet an MI6 agent, but was only a war correspondent for The Times. But even then he was an employee of the foreign intelligence of the NKVD. Now Philby is actively involved in the work of the Intelligence Service in the Spanish direction and his group has received information that the chief of the Abwehr, Canaris, will soon arrive in Spain ...

The documents that came to Philby indicated the entire program of the visit with dates, names of participants in the meetings and places where the admiral was supposed to stop. One of the hotels was the Parador in the small rural town of Manzanares between Madrid and Seville. Philby knew the inn well, and the plan of the operation took shape of itself. The admiral could be easily and quickly removed, and at the headquarters of MI6, Philby's idea was delighted, especially his immediate superior, Felix Cowgill. IN

Cowgill went for the final "go-ahead" to the head of the Intelligence Service, Colonel Stuart Menzies.

Fifty-two-year-old Menzies, who replaced Admiral Hugh Sinclair in MI6 in 1939, was not just a confidant of Churchill - many colleagues considered Menzies the illegitimate son of King Edward VII himself. In any case, Menzies was a truly secular man: a Life Guardsman, a club frequenter, a lover of horse racing and alcohol ... "Don't expect me to read everything you put on my table," he honestly warned his subordinates.

But then the colonel listened to Cowgill in the most attentive way and was horrified: - I categorically forbid
you to even touch the admiral with your finger! Forget about him and leave him alone! — But, sir! We have a brilliant
and real chance to liquidate
such a high-ranking Nazi! "I said
Cowgill!" Forget! And don't think about it anymore!



The assassination attempt had to be abandoned, but the Spanish department of MI6, contrary to the order of the chief, puzzled - what is the matter here? The worst enemy, and - a ban on its liquidation! Colonel Menzies knows Canaris only from undercover photos, and here you are! But there is a war going on. Puzzled Philby reported a strange incident to MI6 in Moscow, and there they decided to take a closer look at Canaris, revealing all his connections and adventures, starting with youth ...

It ended with the fact that the People's Commissar of the NKVD Merkulov reported to Stalin: - Comrade Stalin! Recently
Stanley... - Is this from London? - Stalin interrupted him, who was attentive to intelligence reports and well remembered the operational pseudonyms of especially important agents. Yes, from there! He reports directly
from the Intelligence Service ... And Merkulov told the whole story,
ending with the conclusion: - Canaris is probably an agent of the
British! Before Stanley's encryption, this didn't even occur to us, but we
figured it out, and everything indicates
for that...

- I see ... What do you propose? -

The question is complex, Comrade Stalin ... But it seems to me that all these materials should be handed over to the

Germans. - To whom? If their chief intelligence officer is an English spy, then in no time we can "light up" Stanley too.

- I think we need to transfer this data to ... - Hitler? -

Yes OK. I will think.

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Two days later, Vyshinsky flew to Berlin with a personal order from Stalin and a package from him to the Fuhrer. Three weeks passed ... And in Berlin there was a magnificent state funeral for Canaris, "who died at the hands of British terrorists," as it was said in the official communiqué.

The admiral was buried in the first category. His faithful assistant, General Hans Oster, who died from the same bullets, was seen off on his last journey more modestly. And soon Vyshinsky again flew to Berlin, and three days later flew back to Moscow, not alone. The day before Vyshinsky returned to Moscow, Ernst Thalmann was released from the Hanover prison. Hitler allowed him to fly to the USSR without the right to return to the Reich. Stalin also guaranteed that Telman would not return to Germany without the consent of the Fuhrer.

The FOGs were dissipating, but in the Prime Minister's residence on Downing Street, the main office was still occupied by Churchill. And in Scapa Flow in the Orkney Islands, the powerful Homefleet was still based - the main striking force of the British Empire and its main hope.

The problem of hitting the English Isle was becoming paramount. And it was already possible to solve it together.

Chapter 20

The decision to send Rokossovsky to the Indian campaign put the Soviet Union on the brink of war with England ... Understanding this, Stalin, even before the concentration of expeditionary forces in the initial areas on the territory of the USSR, demanded that Tevosyan transfer the aviation industry to the mobilization regime - extra planes could be needed as early as June. Aircraft and engine factories from Zaporozhye to Siberia now enjoyed priority in everything, and personnel from the Air Force had to be involved in the flight of new products - factory delivery pilots could not cope with this stream. Stalin no longer doubted that the time for war with England had come for Russia and that aviation would have to deliver the main blow.

Aircraft were needed for Europe, but the Asian consumer of Russian DB-Zf torpedo bombers, also called Il-4, also appeared - the Japanese. They planned serious operations in the Pacific for June and understood in advance that losses in aviation would be significant. The Russians could fill them, and Tokyo finally agreed to return South Sakhalin to Russia ... At the same time, Japan asked to increase the supply of aviation fuels and lubricants and, most importantly, to supply Japan with naval bombers in exchange for Sakhalin. From the new reserve, urgently created by Tevosyan,

Stalin allocated to the Japanese three hundred long-range bombers in the torpedo-carrying version with sets of torpedoes for each aircraft. At the same time, the Japanese were hinted that they would soon be able to additionally receive at least fifty torpedo bombers free of charge. A new branch of service was being

created in the Red Army - long-range aviation under the command of thirty-eight-year-old Alexander Golovanov, a former chief pilot of Aeroflot. Previously, there was no separate long-range aviation in the Red Army Air Force. Now it was created as part of three air corps at once. One was armed with our most outstanding

heavy bombers - the Pe-8. In addition to them, in the Golovanov compounds

included divisions equipped with Il-4 and aircraft designer Vladimir Ermolaev - Yer-2. The Ermolaevsky long-range bomber with a ceiling of 7,700 meters and a range of 4,100 kilometers could carry a ton or more bombs and looked somewhat dashing because of the cockpit, shifted to the port side - a little on one side. It was time for a Soviet long-range strategy, to use the

capabilities of our aircraft "to the very tip." However, it was clear that our front-line aircraft - bomber, attack, fighter - would not be superfluous in the English theater. Russian "flying fortresses" "Petlyakov-8" developed by Vladimir Petlyakov's design bureau had a crew of 11

people, a speed at an altitude of 8 kilometers - more than 400 kilometers per hour, a ceiling of almost 11 kilometers, a bomb load of up to 4 tons and a range of almost six thousand kilometers with two tons of bombs on board. Four UBT heavy machine guns and two ShVAK cannons covered the aircraft from all directions. Pe-8 (previously called TB-7) - a powerful strategic bomber - could even compare with its American

counterparts and was significantly superior to the German ones. A couple of years ago, when he was just "fledging", many doubted - do we need **one**? After all, there seemed to be no reason to aim at a long-range "strategy" ... And only after Brest, Stalin gave the go-ahead for a large series of these machines, although a lot of scarce duralumin was used for them. At the end of 1941, Golovanov flew a Pe-8 to Berlin and demonstrated it to the Fuhrer, Goering, and the bomber elite of the Luftwaffe. The Germans

from this "Russian hero" came into an ambivalent mood - they did not expect such success from us and felt understandable annoyance, but quickly realized that such an aircraft could be of great help in the operation against England. And Stalin wrote to the Fuhrer:

"I am glad that you liked our new Pe-8 aircraft. I share your and Herr Goering's opinion that he may be useful in our future joint operations.

But the possibilities of production are limited by the shortage of duralumin. We would ask you to help us on the terms of delivery to Germany of every third Pe-8 made from the duralumin supplied by you, and, of course, with the widespread use of Soviet Pe-8s in the joint operations conceived by us in 1942.

The Fuhrer agreed to the supply of metal to Russia. And the summer of 1942 promised heat, clear skies and great work with great hope of success. A month

before the departure of the Rokossovsky expedition, Stalin gathered in his Kremlin office a meeting of naval and aviators ... Sailors were headed by People's Commissar of the Navy Kuznetsov, pilots - by Air Force Commander-in-Chief Gromov. Gromov was accompanied by Air Force Chief of Staff Fyodor Falaleev and Alexander Golovanov, who had just been appointed commander of long-range aviation under the Air Force Commander-in-Chief. The hero of the epic of saving the Chelyuskinites, Mikhail Vodopyanov, was also here - also from the leadership of the ADC. The flight group was supplemented by the famous polar navigator Ivan Spirin, the new chief navigator of the AD

Many aviators and sailors gathered in Stalin's office had already been here, but, as a rule, separately. And now they looked at each other with interest - what new business brought them together? In addition to Stalin, Molotov, Beria, Voroshilov, Zhdanov, Tevosyan, marshals Timoshenko and Shaposhnikov, and the young - just over forty years old - Chief of the General Staff Vatutin entered the cabinet. With them was the people's Commissar of the aviation industry Shakhurin. Naval People's Commissar,

Vatutin's namesake Nikolai Kuznetsov, was a year younger than the Chief of the General Staff. Next to Kuznetsov, the son of a Vologda peasant who came to the Red Fleet in 1919, sat his deputy Ivan Isakov, midshipman of the old fleet, who began his service in the RKKF a year earlier than the people's commissar, and in general in the fleet - in 1914 as a midshipman. Behind Isakov sat the noble son Lev Galler, in the First World War he was the flagship artilleryman of the battleship brigade, senior officer of the battleship Slava, in 1917 he was the commander of the destroyer Turkmenets Stavropolsky, and now he is the head of the Main Naval Staff. These three made up the highest naval "triumvirate"

and complement each other well. The commander of naval aviation, Lieutenant-General Zhavoronkov, was also in the

office. Strictly upright, sat, when they first got here, the head of the Combat Training Directorate of the Navy, Yuri Rall, and the professor of the Naval Academy, Rear Admiral Vladimir Belli. The last two were also from the old naval officers: Rall in 1917 served as commander of the destroyer *Mobility* and was awarded four old Russian orders with swords, and Belli, a captain of the 1st rank of the tsarist fleet, had three military orders during the World War. "Comrades," Stalin

interrupted the quiet conversation of those gathered. —
We need to discuss an important and so far very secret matter ...

The sea and air "wolves" listened to him as if spellbound ... It was clear that Stalin would now say something really **important**, which they themselves, however, deafly guessed.

- The Soviet government has decided in the near future to present tough demands to the government of England ... The reason is the need to fulfill the contractual obligations of the USSR under the Quadruple Alliance and the general threatening world situation.

The silence became even deeper, and Stalin even more calm.

- But it may not come to a declaration of war if the British heed our proposals, which have already been fully agreed with the German side and previously discussed with the Italian and Japanese sides ... These proposals ...

Stalin began to bend his fingers:

- An immediate truce with Germany, Italy and Japan ... Rejection of the policy of promoting the introduction of the United States into Europe ... Recognition of the leading role of Germany in Europe and Japan in Southeast Asia ... Recognition of the independence of the Arab countries and the internationalization of their oil reserves ... Opening of an international conference with the aim of a fair solution to the problems of the distribution of world reserves of raw materials and ensuring the political and economic rights of all peoples. The generals

and admirals stirred in their chairs - Stalin found a clever way to save face and not look like a party expanding the military conflict. It was clear that the

requirements are correct. But it was also clear that Churchill would not agree to anything like

that! So, it still meant war. This means that there were many purely military matters.

And the meeting began.

Stalin immediately explained that after the loss of the Middle East, the British were not in a position to somehow threaten our territory, and we would start an operation against them only in coordination with the Germans. The rest don't count

yet. He also said that so far only the political side had been discussed with Berlin, and now it would be necessary to discuss everything with the military, for which, in a day, Marshals Timoshenko and Shaposhnikov, together with a number of military comrades present here, would fly to Berlin to meet with German colleagues.

The operation must be planned as primarily an air one. Previously, the Germans did not have such an opportunity - they pulled a lot of forces to the East, when our relations had not yet been finally established. Then came the African campaign... Now the operation against England, with powerful air support from the Soviet Union, is becoming real. This support itself became possible because over the past year our industry has mastered the mass production of the latest aircraft. On the other hand, military assistance to the Reich became a necessity for the USSR.

"And we will provide this assistance," Stalin finished. And then he asked: - Comrade Gromov, what forces can we allocate for the British operation if we give a third of the new combat strength of aviation to it? - Up to three

thousand aircraft, Comrade Stalin ... - Comrade

Shakhurin, if we transfer the aircraft industry to wartime mode and transfer additional capacities to you, can you increase the production of combat aircraft by twenty percent in half a month and maintain this pace for two or three months to make up for possible losses?

Alexei Shakhurin was not even forty years old, but he had been at the head of the People's Commissariat for Aviation Industry for two years and knew the industry well ... After thinking for a minute, the people's commissar replied:

— It is possible to increase it... Perhaps, in a month it is possible to increase it by thirty percent... But for this we need to urgently connect many machine-building plants to our work - motors will be the bottleneck here... And we need to temporarily transfer to us part of the qualified personnel from other industries... - Comrade Tevosyan, - Stalin turned to his deputy for the Council of People's Commissars, - will we pass it on? Yes, Comrade Stalin! As agreed...

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It was necessary to understand and decide a lot ... Up to two thousand aircraft had to be relocated to the airfields of the Reich - Pe-8 strategic bombers, Er-2 long-range bombers, Il-4 torpedo bombers, Pe-2 dive bombers, Mig-3 and Yak-3 cover fighters , Il-2 attack aircraft ...

It was necessary to study the areas of hostilities and establish coordination with the Luftwaffe and the ground services of the Reich.

Yes, the main burden fell on aviation, including naval aviation. In addition, the Baltic Fleet allocated torpedo boats and part of its submarine forces - they were supposed to be transferred to the Reich through the Kiel Canal. But the problem of the main base of the English metropolitan fleet, Scapa Flow, remained serious ... The sailors told Stalin confidently about this. After listening to them, he thought for a moment, then, suddenly remembering something, said: "We will think about it." A couple of days later, the

Moscow marshals, together
with the teams of Gromov and Kuznetsov, were already in Berlin.

At STAVKA in Zossen, long meetings began, where Russian and German speech and the views of two different military schools were mixed. However, military contacts between Russians and Germans did not begin yesterday - back in the twenties in the Lipetsk Special

many future generals of the Luftwaffe practiced flying skills at the aviation school, and now old acquaintances took on a new meaning and significance. The main question was: "Who delivers the main forward strike - the fleet or aviation?"

By the summer of 1942, the German fleet had not received a serious replenishment in the surface composition. The flagship Tirpitz, which remained with the Reich after the death of the Bismarck, was more of a factor of psychological pressure than a combat factor - the Fuhrer kept it in reserve. On the other hand, the production of submarines

increased - they were assembled almost on an assembly line. The British in Scapa Flow based the battleships Rodney, Valiant, Rinaun (Repulse was sunk by Japanese torpedo bombers on December 10, 1941 in the South China Sea). But in general, the British, even after all the failures of the 41st year, were strong at sea ... With a creak, they increased the production of aircraft, but the States became the main source of weapons for the European war. Escort aircraft carriers, destroyers, transports descended from the stocks of American shipyards, and the roar of engines of new bombers handed over to the troops did not subside at the

factory airfields of US aircraft factories. Cold "military" metal was given by America. Living "cannon fodder" - England. The crews of sea and air ships were, of

course, English. The Anglo-Saxons were strong, and every month their overseas power became more and more impressive. So far - overseas, but it was being prepared for Europe ... It was impossible to allow this, and everything turned out that the turning point had to be ensured in the s

The navies of Germany, Italy, even reinforced by the Soviet fleet and the French, were obviously losing to the Anglo-American. But on the other hand, even now in Europe, the Reich and the USSR have accumulated powerful air forces ... They could be quickly transferred to the zone of a possible landing and used there! The Anglo-Saxons, on the other hand, were limited in their ability to quickly transfer large air formations to the European Theater. The German surface and underwater raiders, the islands of the Atlantic occupied by the Germans and the vast expanses of the ocean between the New and Old Worlds interfered.

So, not being decisively strong at sea, Russia and Germany had a decisive air superiority. There was a time - after the defeat of France and Dunkirk, Hitler repeatedly planned and repeatedly postponed a landing operation in England with the code name "Zeeleve" - "Sea Lion". Now, instead of the Sea Lion operation, a new edition of it naturally suggested itself: a joint Soviet-German operation based on the widest use of aviation. The possibility and necessity of it became obvious to both Berlin and Moscow. Hitler suggested that the upcoming operation "Air Lion" be called "Luftleve". This name spoke for itself. And with those masses of aviation that were involved in the operation, the motto "Luftleve"

was the best. Forty-three-year-old Hans Jeschonnek, Chief of the General Staff of the Luftwaffe, told the Russian generals: - So far, the British have nothing particularly new ... Strategic aviation is in the process of re-equipment. New heavy bombers "Stirling", "Halifax"

and "Manchester" are just entering service. According to our data, in February 1942, the bomber aviation had only 400 serviceable

aircraft. Of these, only 69 heavy bombers ... In turn, Admiral Doenitz boasted to Admiral Kuznetsov: - The actions of our boats against English shipping have reached such proportions that the economy of England is under threat. At the same time, the British are no longer able to control our

underwater force...

"But the landing of the Home Fleet is still in a position to block," Doenitsa reined in. Grand Admiral Raeder. "And here there can't be much help

from us in the combat strength of the fleet," Kuznetsov added. - We give you only torpedo bombers and, in addition, we will transfer our top-masts to you ...

"This is very important... Although, Herr Kuznetsoff and Herr Zhavoronkoff, your masters of top-mast bombing should be trained at our training grounds... We have accumulated a lot of experience during the war..."

We believe and we will definitely take this into account.

Yes, there was a lot to do and little time. The preliminary date for the start of the Air Lion was June 22, 1942.

And Stalin, immediately after the meeting with the sailors and pilots, summoned a modest stocky man in a uniform with a colonel's buttonholes and, when he appeared in his office, offered to sit down, sat down next to him

himself and asked: - How are things going with you, Comrade Korolev?

"Not bad, Comrade Stalin. What can you offer us as a weapon? - We in our Reactive Research Institute are now finishing work on a ground-to-ground radio-controlled cruise missile series 212 with a liquid-propellant rocket engine ... - What does it mean - a

ground-to-ground class? - Start from the ground, Comrade Stalin, from a powder catapult, and also hit a ground target ...

- I understand ... And the

range? - Estimated range - fifty kilometers with a starting weight of 210 kilograms and a warhead weight of 30 kilograms ... The length of the rocket is three

meters. - The range and weight are too small ... Can't you do more?

And so that the class "air - ground" ... And even

better "air - sea". - That is, starting

from an airplane? - Yes ... - We have a RP-318 rocket glider ...

Manned ... It rises into the air by plane, unhooks. Then the rocket engine turns on... Pilot Fedorov made his first flight on February 28, 1940...

This glider is heavier, more massive... - What about speed?

"About three

hundred kilometers an hour. - Few.

- There

is also a rocket plane ... Weight is one and a half tons ... But we have just carried out the first flight - on May 13 ... The pilot Bakhchivadzhik flew. - Speed?

Up to eight

hundred kilometers an hour.

- This is what you need. But this is with a pilot ... And what about the accuracy of hitting your unmanned missile?

- Accuracy is still bad. —

And how are things abroad, Comrade Korolev? - The Germans were probably the best... They knew a lot of things back in the thirties... There is such a German Oberth there... Something like our Tsiolkovsky... - Well...

We need to think about how to put it all together... Colonel

Korolev left... Head of the Red Jet Research Institute The army was thirty-six years old in 1942, but he had been engaged in rocket business for more than ten years and developed advanced liquid-propellant rockets. Our rocket scientists had considerable success, but so far only those who dealt with powder rockets have given real weapons - BM-13 combat vehicles were made, where RS-132 rockets went to the target from rail guides. In August 1939, I-16 fighter-missile carriers were used for the first time in the world at Khalkhin Gol, under the planes of which eight RS-82s were suspended. The rocket achievements of the Reich in the creation of liquid rockets were immeasurably greater ...

The role of the pioneer here was indeed played by Hermann Oberth - "German Tsiolkovsky". Born in 1894, already in 1923, after graduating from the University of Heidelberg, he published the book Rocket and Outer Space with his own meager funds. In 1927, Oberth's works were introduced to the USSR, and he himself began to correspond with Tsiolkovsky, although he did not have particularly good feelings for the Russians - in 1932 Oberth was invited to work with us, offering excellent conditions, but he refused. In 1928, a circle of space flight enthusiasts formed around Oberth, which included the sixteen-year-old Wernher

von Braun. The young, Aryan-looking son of a banker had brilliant engineering abilities and soon developed them at the Zurich and Berlin Higher Technical Schools and at the University of Berlin.

Soon, Oberth left for Romania, and the aeronautical engineer von Braun continued to work on rockets - now as head of the secret rocket technology laboratory at the artillery range in Kummersdorf. In 1937 Werner was appointed technical

director of the German military research center in Peenemünde on the island of Usedom in the Pomeranian Bay of the Baltic Sea - not far from Swinoujscie. Brown, like Korolev, was

working on liquid-propellant rockets, and his main target was a heavy ballistic missile to bombard England from the continent. In Peenemünde, they worked hard and not without success on this problem. However, in the event of the success of the Air Lion, the need for such a missile disappeared and the option of shelling America became promising. However, this was not a task for the near future. Work in Peenemünde was in full swing when the Fuhrer received another letter from Stalin:

"Mr Reich Chancellor!

After talking with our military and engineers, I had the idea that we could strike at the base of the British fleet at Scapa Flow with a combination of the Soviet Pe-8 heavy bomber, which you are aware of, and a radio-controlled unmanned missile a projectile dropped from a carrier aircraft at a great distance to the target and flying towards the target at such a high speed that neither air defense fighters nor anti-aircraft guns can shoot it down. We have achieved rocket speeds on winged objects of about 800 kilometers per hour, but the hitting accuracy is low. Perhaps your engineers have come up with something more suitable...

I propose to combine our efforts in order to bring this idea to a real weapon in the shortest possible time and start our joint operation "Air Lion" with such a blow.

I hope that your response will be prompt and positive.

I. Stalin.

The Fuhrer thought about it... The idea was tempting, and the combination of the inventive Russian mind and the German technical genius could bring a real basis for it. In the Berlin office of the Fuhrer

von Braun and General Dornberger appeared, who led the rocket work of the Reich. "Gentlemen,

Prime Minister Stalin approached me with a proposal... Read it for yourself," Hitler handed the rocket men a sheet with a translation, where the words about England were omitted just in case. After reading, the

general and the engineer looked at each other, and Dornberger, once again looking at Brown, he said, both asking and affirming at once:

- "Waterfall" ... -

What is this? Hitler asked. - My Fuhrer, this is

our new rocket projectile, which can be called anti-aircraft, because it is designed for the same purposes as a conventional anti-aircraft gun. Its length is about 8 meters, and it carries a charge of 165 kilograms. — Do you make it, von Braun? "Not quite, my

Fuhrer! But I know... — What can

he do, von Braun? - It can shoot down enemy bombers at a distance of 16

kilometers with great accuracy. - Can it be dropped from an aircraft and sent to a point ground target? - I guess, yes. - And on a

target like a ship? - It's more difficult. We need to think about this... "Think about it, Werner,"

the Fuhrer suggested

even mildly. - You see, Stalin

offers us his cooperation ... He gives us a heavy

bomber, and if we hang your "Waterfall" on it, we can ... - Hitler hesitated, but continued: - We can defeat the British fleet from distances inaccessible to their anti-aircraft weapons. However, even greater range and a more powerful charge are needed. - And how much can this Russian bomber lift? - As far as I remember, at least two tons. And he climbs ten kilometers. And it has a huge range... I've seen it myself and it's really impressive... You need to work with the Russians.

SO FATE brought together two enthusiasts of space flights in a vacuum, forced to engage in far from peaceful flights in the turbulent earthly atmosphere over Europe. The calculation was that, having at its disposal such a high-altitude long-range aircraft carrier as the Pe-8, it is possible to build a flight route with complete surprise of the strike.

In the end, Brown and Korolev decided that for the naval version of the Waterfall, it was possible to increase the weight of the explosives by reducing the range, and to "reach" the range due to the first stage, the basis of which would be a Russian high-speed powder rocket. Without entering the air defense zone, the Russian Pe-8s drop Russian-German unmanned high-precision missiles, and they fly towards the targets ... The "Russian" stage accelerates the "German", and then is discarded. The blow is delivered by the

German warhead. Urgent development of the design and flight tests began. But in this mode, everyone who was preparing an unprecedented - the most grandiose in world military history and until recently absolutely unthinkable - strategic offensive operation was working in this mode in the Reich and in the USSR.

Chapter 21

If we move our eyes on the map of Great Britain up from London - to the north and a little west, towards Scotland, then, having reached Edinburgh, we will find that the city stands on the shores of a narrow Firth of Forth, deeply protruding into the land. And going further north, we will reach the very tip of Scotland.

This is followed by the Pentland Firth and the Orkney Islands. Before the First World War, here in Scapa Flow, the main operational naval base of the English home fleet, the Home Fleet, was created. This place is remote from prying eyes and conveniently located tactically. The 120 square mile water area of Scapa Flow is bounded on the north by Pomona Island (Mainland), on the south by the islands of Burray and South Ronaldsay, and on the west by Hoy Island. At the same time, there are outlets to the Atlantic Ocean, the North Sea and the Pentland Firth, and it is also close to the reserve sites in Loch U and Fort of Firth. Scapa Flow is a naval paradise... It

has it all: dispersed moorings for ships of all classes, sea and land airfields, ship repair shops and storage facilities for everything from torpedoes to coffee and cigarettes. The Germans tried to get to Scapa Flow already during the naval war of 1914-1918, but

failed twice - this task was very difficult. Suffice it to say that in the Pentland Firth, the speed of the underwater current reaches 10 knots (almost 19 kilometers per hour), and the speed of the submerged boat is about 7 knots. That is, in a narrow strait, the boat simply turned out to be at the mercy of the elements and was not controlled.

Strong sailors served in the submarine fleet of Kaiser Wilhelm II ... Captain-Lieutenant Otto Hersig went down in history as the world's first submarine commander who sank an enemy ship with a torpedo - the British cruiser Pathfinder. The legendary Otto Weddingen on U-9 sank three armored cruisers in one hour, including the cruiser Hawk. Lothar von Arno

de la Pierre sank 54 ships in one combat campaign. At the same time, during the war, out of 350 imperial submarines, 180 died, and out of 13 thousand submariners - 5354 people.

The Germans fought bravely and skillfully, but Scapa Flow was beyond their power. And the Kriegsmarine of the Reich reached the Holy of Holies Home Fleet only in the autumn of 1939, a month and a half after the start of a new world war. Then the chief of the submariners, the "Führer of the submarine fleet" of the Reich and its actual creator, Admiral Karl Doenitz, summoned the successful thirty-year-old U-47 commander Gunther Prien and invited him to penetrate Scapa Flow ... Doenitz is an old submariner himself, a developer of the tactics of "wolf packs", personally developed the operation against the main base of the English fleet. On October 1, 1939, he introduced her plan to Prien, and preparations began for the implementation of a bold but well-thought-out idea. As a result, on the night of October 13-14, U-47 quietly

made its way past the fireships flooded in the Kirk Sound Strait, into the waters of the base and torpedoed the Royal Oak battleship with a displacement of 31,200 tons. The ship was not new, but still it was an active battleship, and besides, it was believed to be in complete safety. And so he was sinking, and after 23 minutes he turned over and went to the shallow bottom along with 833 English sailors, among whom was the commander of the British fleet, Admiral Bengrove. The prince went away unnoticed. At the base in Wilhelmshaven, his boat, with a huge crowd of people, was met by Doenitz himself with his headquarters. He presented the entire crew with Iron

Crosses 2nd Class. The commander was taken to Berlin on the Fuhrer's personal plane, where Hitler solemnly awarded him the Knight's Cross. And on October 17, 1939, the Germans began a series of air raids on Scapa Flow. With the forces of three squadrons, they achieved a number of hits, but little success was achieved,

Although...

Although on October 18, the First Lord of the Admiralty (and he was then Sir Winston Leonard Spencer Churchill) told the cabinet (then still Chamberlain's cabinet) that at the moment he did not consider Scapa Flow suitable for basing the metropolitan fleet ... And the Home Fleet began six-

month wanderings ... In the beginning there was Loh Yu, where the battleship Nelson was heavily blown up by a mine. Then the base

became Fort of Firth, where the keel of the new cruiser Belfast was damaged by a mine ... Only on March 12, 1940, the

metropolitan fleet returned to its main base. Three additional firewalls were placed in Kirk Sound, the coastal garrison grew, air defense became powerful: 120 anti-aircraft guns, barrage balloons, many searchlights, radars, squadrons of Hurricanes and Spitfires ... The patrol service for protecting the water area was strengthened. Since then, a lot of fast water has gone down the Pentland Fair. And a lot has changed in the situation at sea. France fell, and a grandiose, with impenetrable

concrete shelters for German boats, a new German coastal base was built in French Lorient. And on it began to be based, among others, a group of boats "Prin". On March 8, 1941, during a bold attack on a convoy, the commander of U-47, corvette captain (captain of the 3rd rank), Prien died. And on May 27, 1941, on the mighty flagship, the battleship Bismarck, the commander of the surface fleet, Admiral Günter Lütjens, died ... There were large and small battles in the Atlantic and in the Mediterranean Sea - successful as

for the Germans and their Italian allies, and for the British.

All this became the past, and the near future was preparing a new fierce battle for the opposing sides.

AIR LION was conceived as an entirely new combined operation using air, missile, submarine and surface forces, with an emphasis on torpedo boats at sea. The Italians allocated for the operation their entire composition of combat divers-saboteurs and equipment. were also supposed to become Army combined - landing from the sea and airborne assaults of German and Russian paratroopers. Admiral Kuznetsov did not promise much but he prepared landings combat assistance from the Soviet surface fleet, a surprise for the Germans. I found out about it

Raeder from the smiling Isakov, who once again arrived to clarify the situation. - Herr Grand Admiral, I can tell you the

news, for you,
obviously nice...

- Glad in advance, Herr Admiral... - Have
you heard anything about "Elpidifors"? - I confess - no. Isakov
explained: - Before the First
World War, a new

class of ships appeared in the old Russian fleet - infantry landing and unloading
transports of the "Elpidifor" type ... Displacement from 1100 to 1300 tons, small artillery
weapons, landing from 500 to 1000 people ... But the main thing is that our "elpidifors" by
placing the car in the stern and moving the ballast could provide a draft on the bow to zero
and go straight to the shore ... They did not need equipped berths ... - Oh, that's interesting!
We have something similar, but I did not know that the Russians also have such a long
experience. — Yes... We did a pretty good job of landing troops on the Turkish coast... Of
course, the times were quite different, but experience is experience... Moreover, we have the
experience of the Elpidifors themselves, as well as their

modern development... — And you provide them to us? - Yes! Approximately one
hundred units. — Danke! This is really good news,
Herr Admiral...



Russian cargo lighters "Elpidiphora" on the Black Sea at one time were a really
successful tactical novelty, and when in the second half of 41, Stalin realized that our
participation in the attack on England would soon be "on the agenda", he began to make
inquiries on organizing amphibious assaults ... As a result, Tevosyan, in addition to all his
troubles, received the task of loading shipbuilders

an urgent order for a series of transport ships and for the modernization of existing old ones. In the upcoming operation, they could be very useful ... Especially - with serious air cover.

Aviation support was supposed to become such that it turned from **support** into almost the core of all efforts! Four thousand Luftwaffe aircraft were added to our three thousand aircraft. And in three waves of army landing, at least three hundred thousand people were supposed to go to the Island. Secrecy and surprise were important ... And they were ensured by the

fact that the transfer of all Soviet invasion forces was planned for the time "D-day minus five days" ... Mostly pilots and paratroopers participated in the "Air Lion" from us, so these dates were quite acceptable. In the meantime, the commanders of Soviet squadrons and regiments came in civilian clothes to the Reich, to France and **looked closely**. At the right moment, from both entrances to the English Channel - from the side of the Atlantic Ocean and the North Sea - the planes were supposed to carry out minelaying in order to

close the strait from the sides for British naval reinforcements. In addition, almost all German and Italian submarines were secretly pulled into the English Channel zone - for the duration of the operation, ocean communications could be left alone, because if successful, there was no need for convoys from the New World to go to England.

And from the air, up to three torpedo bombers, just

thousand

And

bombers, dive bombers, attack And torpedo bombers, aircraft ... Dornier, Heinkels, Junkers, Messerschmitts,

Petlyakovs, Ilyushins, Ermolaevs, Tupolevs ... All this avalanche is so far only in headquarters crews - blocked any attempt at activity, and torpedo boats, in collaboration with fighters, finished off what did not fall into aviation sights.

However, it wasn't easy! From the shores of Northern France to the chalk coasts of Britain, landing craft had to travel about thirty kilometers, even in the narrow Pas de Calais. And a whole hundred kilometers across the English Channel itself. And this is before

five hours by sea. During such a period, even with an overwhelming superiority, one could have many losses.

Therefore, at the widest point of the crossing - between Cherbourg and Portland - the first wave of landing was a bait. She was supposed to pull the British into the middle of the English Channel, expose their defenses, after which this defense could be smashed. And here in the first wave - numerous in terms of the number of watercraft - the oldest ships went, where, with minimal crews, there were no Wehrmacht paratroopers at all. The second wave carried all the power of the strike... A third wave of almost the same power was planned to

follow. The narrowest place in the English Channel (also called the English Channel) is the short Strait of Pas de Calais (Strait of Dover). A good torpedo boat will pass it in twenty or thirty minutes. But a landing barge, even if it is called a fast barge, is not a boat. And then the sea itself came to the aid of the attackers ... The depths in Pas de Calais are 25–33 meters. But in the middle part of the strait there are Ridge (Le Colbar), Ridens (Le Ridan) and other smaller banks. Shallow banks reduce the depth to one and a half meters ... And especially to ensure the anti-aircraft defense of the landing and control the water space, flat-bottomed artillery platforms with a minimum draft were prepared. They could be delivered to the cans in tugboats in an hour, and there it remained to sink them aground, secure, and in the middle of the Pas de Calais a network of naval artillery forts instantly grew up. This also increased the chances of success for the mass of landing craft, which were supposed to be defended from the British fleet by aircraft, torpedo boats and large warships, submarines and minefields. The ships

were supposed to assemble at the landing sites for three days. And all of them had to be typed up to a thousand units. At the same time, a rigid security zone was established over the entire space from Cherbourg to Ostend - British aerial reconnaissance was excluded here.

The direction of the main blow was clear to everyone - London.

HOUR "H" of the day "D" came at one in the morning on June 22, 1942. The day before, late in the evening of June 20, the Soviet ambassador, General Ignatiev, asked for an urgent meeting with Eden. The

British Foreign Minister received him an hour later. Ignatiev was alone - without an interpreter, which he needed nothing more than an open friendly smile at the moment. There was no one to smile now, and there was no need to translate, because the Soviet ambassador knew the language of the host country better than many of its citizens. "Mr. Minister," Ignatiev said dryly, "I have the honor to hand you the memorandum of my government and I hope to receive an answer no later than tomorrow afternoon. Eden skimmed through the short text of the memorandum and raised his eyes to

Ambassador:

But, sir, this is war! "Only if, Mr. Minister, if you wish it ... England is fighting not for its own interests, but for the interests of America ... The Yankees once already plunged Europe into the horrors of war ... Perhaps you, sir, know that I myself hosted in it active participation as a military representative of old Russia among the allies... Then I was blind and did not see the background of events... - And now the Bolsheviks have enlightened you, Count? - Eden could not resist a caustic prick, which was

seized at the same time by fear, excitement, bitterness and anger. — That's right, sir... Russia shouldn't have got involved in that war, and everything would have been over on the

continent very quickly. Ignatiev chuckled mirthlessly and added: "However, then, perhaps, there would have been no war at all, if England had

not incited the Kaiser with her assurances of neutrality." Your warning was enough that if Germany invaded France and Belgium, England would also come out, and the war would immediately become problematic ... - But, sir! — Yes... But now Russia is directly offering you to give up the war and take your rightful place in the new world... Significant... But not leading! And only you can choose - an immediate worthy peace or an

unnecessary

war for the people of England.

"All right, Mr. Ambassador, I'll get in touch with His Majesty, the Prime Minister and the Cabinet at once..." At noon on June 21, Eden

coldly replied with a foreseeable refusal. There was nothing more to say, and nothing more. And Ignatiev silently handed Eden a note declaring war. There were only a few hours left before the start of the Air Lion.

IN THE PACIFIC, summer battles were already in full swing ... At the end of 41, the Japanese stormed Wake Island and set up an air base there. After receiving torpedo bombers from Russia - mostly Yer-2 - the Japanese were able to control the ocean area within a radius of about two thousand kilometers from Wake. In addition, the island was now reliably covered not only by fighters, but also by hundreds of excellent Soviet anti-aircraft guns, which Moscow handed over to the Japanese as an additional "bonus" for Sakhalin. By the beginning of the summer of 1942 in the Pacific, the Japanese had to reckon only with the Yankees - the British forces

were seriously undermined. On April 5, two heavy British cruisers, the Cornwall and the Dorsetshire, were sunk by air strikes. A little later, the Hermes aircraft carrier went to the bottom near the island of Ceylon. But on the other hand, the American Pacific Fleet only increased, and its new commander, Admiral Nimitz, was looking for meetings with the squadrons of Admiral Yamamoto. The Japanese, on the other hand, were planning a landing on Midway Island, lost in the ocean, but strategically important. It was almost two thousand kilometers from Wake to him - at the limit of the Ep-2 radius, but

still within this radius. For the operation against Midway, Yamamoto allocated 11 battleships, 7 aircraft carriers, 12 cruisers, 50 destroyers and 15 submarines ... It was a powerful strike force, but it was inferior to Nimitz's forces in one important indicator - speed. In addition,

Nimitz pulled up to Midway as many as two squadrons, which included 3 aircraft carriers, 8 cruisers and 15 destroyers. The Midway garrison was reinforced, and the island

67 bombers, 37 flying boats and 27 fighters were based. However, the Japanese were

ready to oppose the speed of the Yankees at sea with their new shock speed in the air - due to the torpedo bombers supplied by the Russians.

On June 3, an American reconnaissance boat discovered the Japanese squadron on a campaign, and on June 4, 108 aircraft raised from Japanese aircraft carriers made the first raid on Midway - without much success.

Yamamoto's battleships were still heading towards the expedition's goal, and soon an "absentee" battle of aircraft carriers began - with American "Hornet", "Enterprise" and "Yorktown" and from the Japanese "Kara", "Akagi", "Hi-ryu" torpedo bombers left, mutually attacking the naval carriers of the opposite side. "Kara" and "Akagi" received three hits, "Soruu" and "Hiriu" were burning (on June 5 it will go to the bottom), but "Yorktown" was barely kept on the surface of the water. The armada of Japanese

battleships still did not have time to reach the center of events. A critical moment has come in the battle, the scales have fluctuated ...

But one and a half hundred Japanese Yers with torpedoes were already approaching here! On the maximum ceiling, practically invulnerable, they attacked large targets - the Hornet, the Enterprise and the half-flooded Yorktown ... And now all three aircraft carriers, together with three heavy American cruisers and a couple of destroyers, are hiding under water ... Carrier-based aircraft lifted

from aircraft carriers, deprived of a base, partly get to Midway, and partly follow their drowning carriers.

The Japanese "Ermolaevs" lay down on the return course, they now have one task - to fly to Way-ka. And the Yamamoto squadron, led by the flagship Yama-to, is inexorably approaching Midway, the battle for which can already be considered won by the Japanese.

Yamamoto's success at Midway was the Asian prologue to the European success of Operation Luftleve.

And the peak of the first phase of the operation was the defeat of the Home Fleet on own base in Scapa Flow...

FORWARD echelons of amphibious assaults and air formations in the Pas de Calais and the English Channel were preparing for a night throw across the Channel, and two bomber armadas took off into the night air from airfields in Northern Denmark and Southern Norway. Two waves of a massive raid on Scapa Flow began their movement towards the target. The longest day of the year gave the night no time for long power. The sun, before it really set, rose above the horizon again and gleamed brightly on the planes of cars, of which there were so many that it seemed like two huge thousand-eyed dragons were flying over the sea waves, now and then emitting rays of unbearable light from their eyes. Both armadas went far into the spaces above the Norwegian Sea, in order to then turn in a

sharp zigzag towards the Orkney Islands and enter them from almost pure north. Thus, one could hope for a complete surprise raid.

The first wave, the "Danish", consisted only of Pe-8 heavy missile carriers, and there were exactly seventy of them in this wave. The production of missile-carrying "Petlyakovs" in recent months has occupied the capacity of almost half of the Soviet aircraft factories. The Germans also had to work on this order, because it was decided to throw all the ready cash on Scapa Flow. And each aircraft carried two heavy short-range aircraft missiles of the Brown-Korolev design on underwing pylons. In the second wave of the raid, the "Norwegian", there were almost a thousand Soviet and German

bombers and torpedo bombers. All the continental theaters of operations from Dunkirk to Baghdad and Basra and from Tunisia to Narvik were liquidated long ago, and therefore it became possible only to throw such unprecedented power on Scapa Flow.

Simultaneously with the attack groups on Scapa Flow, a separate attack group on air defense radars covering the southern and central part of England left the Danish airfields. Both armadas - both the "Danish"

and the "Norwegian" - went in almost parallel courses one after another ... Having made a zigzag over the open sea back to the south, they had to lie down on a combat course.

The planes covered the sky with themselves and flew - some into the missile launch zone, others further - straight to the base in order to drop their

torpedoes and bombs over it. Over all the Orkney Islands a cloudless sky was blue, but far above the sea two invisible steel clouds were gathering, carrying fiery showers to the earth and waters.

And a week before this morning, the Admirals of His Majesty's Navy were conferring at

Scapa Flow. Sir John Cronin Tovey, 1st Baron Tovey of Langton-Metravers has been in command of the Home Fleet since 2 December 1940, and his residence at Scapa Flow has long since become familiar to him, almost replacing his home. In January 1941, Tovey conducted Operation Berlin against the heavy cruisers Scharnhorst and Gneisenau, and in May organized the search, pursuit, and then the sinking of the battleship Bismarck. However, even after that, the admiral had enough worries and trou-

The alarming news of recent weeks kept Sir John on his guard, but air and naval reconnaissance, including submarine patrols, did not detect increased German naval activity, even on the distant approaches to Scapa Flow. No major actions were foreseen against the main naval base of German aviation. It looked like the Germans were concentrating all their forces in the area of their already clearly close landing on the English Island and could not be distracted by suppressing that part of the Home Fleet, which was anchored in a huge harsh bay on the Orkney Islands. There was, however, something inexplicably menacing in the air. And Tovey felt that some

completely unexpected catch was possible. On June 15, he convened the Naval Council. Lean, weather-beaten colleagues with thick admiral stripes gathered in the conference room

without jokes and animation, although everyone had known each other for a long time. Nor was Tovey cheerful when he opened the meeting, saying:

- Lord! I hope all of you have read the article "Victory Through Air Power" that Major de Seversky recently published in the New York Herald Tribune. He writes about Pearl Harbor that "the presence of ships in the harbor is an invitation to enemy aircraft to attack."

The admirals stirred - the quote seemed to apply directly to their case - there were enough ships in the harbor of Scapa Flow. The reaction was general, but only Vice Admiral Andrew Cunningham took the floor.

In November 1940, Cunningham successfully attacked, including with air forces, the Italian fleet in his own base in Taranto ... Then the Italians suffered serious losses, the battleships Littorio, Duilio, Count de Cavour and others were disabled. In April 1942, Cunningham was sent to Washington to represent Britain at the Chiefs of Staff Conference. But at the beginning of June he returned, as events were becoming threatening, and now in a hoarse voice he said:

- Sir! In Washington, I met Major de Seversky. This is the former Russian midshipman Seversky, who was sent by Lenin to the States and remained there. Seversky is a thinking officer, and we read his article on Pearl Harbor. Its name hits the mark: victory at sea through air power is possible. But for such a victory, such power is needed.

Cunningham shrugged,

"Hitler doesn't seem to have an air force that could give us much trouble here, especially when the Germans seem to be preparing their long-promised Sea Lion jump and they'll need all their air power there... Cunningham waved his hand towards the south. Rear Admiral Frederick Hugh George Dalrymple-Hamilton, who

recently exchanged half a century, commanded the cruiser Rodney a year ago and played a major role in the sinking of the Bismarck, and now commanded the 5th Squadron in the Home Fleet. Sitting next to him was Vice Admiral William Frederick Wake-Walker. He commanded a cruiser squadron and held the flag on the Norfolk cruiser. Wake Walker, too, had taken part in the operation against the Bismarck, the Home Fleet's most notorious victory, and exchanged knowing glances with Hamilton.

The younger Hamilton nodded his head and said,

"Gentlemen! Let's take our raids on Brest, when Scharnhorst, Gneisenau and Prinz Eugen were based there... Let me remind you that in ten months we carried out 111 massive raids on ships and docks in Brest, during which there were

3999 sorties were made and up to 4000 thousand tons of bombs were dropped. The average bomb load on an aircraft is one ton at a target distance of about 250–300 kilometers from the departure area. For one raid, on average, 36 tons of bombs were dropped! .. Tovey nodded his

head in agreement: - Yes, this is an example of a very significant combat tension ... - However, - Hamilton continued, - according to intelligence, we were not able to disable these ships to such an extent that to prevent them from breaking through the Channel and getting into conditions of greater security, which also gave them the opportunity to use the

Baltic repair bases. "But, Frederick," Cunningham interrupted Hamilton, "in Taranto we achieved excellent results in one air raid in two waves!" "Cavour" sank, "Giulio Cesare" landed on the ground, "Littorio" also landed on the ground! But in the first wave we had only a dozen dive bombers and torpedo bombers, and in the second wave we had five torpedo bombers and three bombers.

- Sir! Hamilton objected. "It was a rare stroke of luck. Firstly, the defense of Taranto was extremely weak, especially the anti-aircraft ones, the ships in the base were crowded and presented advantageous targets for an attack from the air. Secondly, almost the entire Mediterranean Fleet participated in the operation under your own leadership! 5 battleships, an aircraft carrier, 8 cruisers, 22 destroyers - all to divert attention and disguise true intentions ... - That's right, - Cunningham

grumbled. - And, I must admit, intelligence helped us a lot then - both aerial and undercover. We knew exactly what and where in Taranto was... "But here, gentlemen, there is a clear lull,"

Tovey sighed. "The naval forces of the Reich are far from us, the distances from German airfields to us are great, they have no extra aircraft capable of threatening us, there are no signs of aerial reconnaissance of the base either, and the radio interception service did not detect any suspicious radios," Tovey sighed again. 'Sir,' said Hamilton

respectfully, 'but from your tone of voice, this lull doesn't make you very happy?'

“Alas, Frederick, I fear that this may not be the calm before the storm...” “But, sir, where does she come from?” “Oh, if only I knew... After all, the Nazis have already flown here!”



The last time the Luftwaffe carried out a raid on Scapa Flow, based on Flensburg. It was in 1940, and the distance to the target one way was then 850 kilometers. However, serious results were not achieved then. And although Admiral Tovey's soul was still restless, there was no need to do anything urgent. On June 21, at one o'clock in the afternoon, Tovey urgently called the First Sea Lord Dudley Pound to the

telephone. “John,” he said in a hollow voice into the phone, “the Russians have declared war on us. —

How, sir? Are they already engaged in hostilities? - No! Yesterday they made impossible demands

on us, and Winston, of course, refused them. Then Ignatiev handed Eden a note declaring war. - Began! Tovy burst out. He immediately caught himself: - And how are the Germans? “So far, everything is quiet, but intelligence reports that

they seem to be running out of final preparations for the jump.

- Shall we fight off?

- I think yes. However, prepare part of the forces for the transfer closer to the Channel. I don't think you will have much of a problem. Be ready! — Yes, sir!



At airfields in Denmark and Norway, mechanics were already preparing planes for takeoff, hanging torpedoes and bombs, refueling

airborne cannon shells and machine guns with heavy cartridge belts ... The pilots of the aircraft rested before the last briefings and checks of readiness for flight. The hour has come - and two steel clouds, carrying lightning and

thunders soared into the night sky.

Pe-8s were the first to reach the missile launch point. There was a good ten kilometers to the target, and although British radars spotted the missile-carrying armada, no one could have guessed further in Scapa Flow. After all, foreign aircraft have not yet entered the air defense zone.

The commander of the 1st Heavy Bomber Regiment of Long-Range Aviation of the Red Army Yevgeny Preobrazhensky looked at the navigator of the command vehicle. He nodded: they say, it's time!

The commander flipped the lever on the radio and announced on the air: "To all Rubins!" Full readiness for launch! I start the countdown, ten seconds later I launch the first rocket. We proceed according to the schedule.

Preobrazhensky narrowed his eyes and began counting. When expired tenth second, he ordered: - Navigator,

launch! The car shook, a

huge, elongated torch flashed under it, instantly overtook the plane and quickly disappeared into the distance. The accelerating powder stage did its job, and now there, on the remaining kilometers of the way, the liquid unmanned rocket led and

guided by automation.

Preobrazhensky smiled and again gave the command to launch. And to the right and left of the commander's Pe-8, the sky was cut by the fiery dashes of missiles dropped from the first-echelon slave carriers.

Preobrazhensky went into a gentle dive, freeing space for launching second-tier missiles.

Ten minutes later, over the fire and black smoke that covered the bay of Scapa Flow, a wave of torpedo bombers and bombers appeared. The sky was so covered with smoky clouds that the navigators of the aircraft could hardly distinguish targets and it was difficult to understand which of what fell into the sights had already been hit, and which had to be torpedoed and bombed. Here and there the water swirled wildly into whirlpools formed by the sinking ships of the Home Fleet. In different places of the bay, masts protruded from under the water.

sunken destroyers - like landmarks that mark some kind of crazy fairway, known only to the devil ... Above the clouds of

burning, black clouds of anti-aircraft shells explosions appeared, clearly visible, tracer bursts stretched, and it was not clear whether they connect the sky with the earth, or fly from sky to earth, followed by half-ton aerial bombs. The senior aviation commander of the second wave of the raid, holder of the Knight's Cross with swords and oak leaves, Hans-Ulrich Rudel, did not sit at the helm that day. Now, when he brought his "wave" to the object, he seemed to be out of work and lay down on the cabin floor to assess the accuracy of the work of subordinates through the viewing hole. Before that, Rudel had never been able to calmly, from the side, watch the bombs fall, and this spectacle captivated him. The target was so far below that he doubted if the bombs would hit it...

The bombs got smaller and smaller, and Rudel held his breath, afraid to lose sight of them - black spots quickly turned into poppy seeds and finally disappeared in white puffs of smoke on the deck of the ship. Near the target, three large

circles diverged on the water, and Rudel realized that these were misses. From a great height they could be seen better than hits, from which only small hazes were formed, almost imperceptible against the background of smoke floating over the bay.

The plane with Rudel came to a new target, and he again lay down on the floor. Reset, decreasing bomb spots, then two hazes and two circles

water. "Two hits," Rudel said, and got up from the floor. The

combined torpedo and bomb attack completed the rout begun by the missile attack. Rudel looked down again. Hell was raging there ... Wake-Walker's flagship Norfolk went under water, stern lifted high to the gloomy sky. In the distance, the heavy cruisers Kent and Shropshire were burning ...

German and Russian pilots lay down on the return course. His Royal Majesty's Home Fleet slowly sank to the bottom of the bay, where, since 1918, lay the remains of the German fleet, interned in Scapa Flow and sunk by the crews of the German ships themselves in protest against the Treaty of Versailles.

AND AT THAT TIME, over the English Channel and to the west - already over the British coastal zone - the engines of thousands of German Junkers, Dorniers, Henschels, Messerschmitts and Soviet "silts", "yaks", "migs" roared, "Laggs", "Dry", "Petlyakovs" and "Tupolevs" ... Having failed in 1940 as "Zeeleve", when Churchill's Britain dealt only with the German Reich, the Luftleve operation acquired in 1942 strong and powerful wings of the Russian and German sample. And on these wings, for the first time since the time of William the Conqueror, war came to the British Isle across the sea to land - the landing on the Island was successful almost everywhere.

Having overcome the sea defense lines of the British, the Pas de Calais and the English Channel with the help of aviation and navy, the Wehrmacht quickly broke into the London direction. However, the land resistance of the British was already psychologically undermined at the very beginning ... The new leaflets of the Quadruple Alliance directly stated that its main goal was peace with England, and not its conquest, and that the Germans and Russians were ready for an immediate truce if Churchill left.

Even after June 22, not a single bomb fell on London, but it was, as in a snowy winter, covered with pieces of paper with the texts of those speeches of the "American allies" that the BBC had never informed the British about ...

On the paths of Hyde Park, in Trafalgar Square, near the Prime Minister's residence and in the working-class suburbs, there were also leaflets with five short phrases:

Roosevelt and Churchill are servants of the plutocrats.

Plutocrats are war.

The people need peace!

Down with the war!

Down with Churchill!

Chapter 22

In the building of the Foreign Office on Downing Street, Sir Winston Churchill, still the Prime Minister of England, was buried in a deep leather chair. He almost fell into prostration and brought himself out of it with increased doses of cognac. The situation from this, however, was not cleared up, there was no way

out. In other words, the situation was hopeless. For Churchill. And for England?

England has not exactly forgotten what it is - war in relation to its territory. She simply ***did not know this***, except for the civil unrest of the Middle Ages, the war of the Scarlet and White Roses. Therefore, there could be no talk of serious ground opposition to the invasion forces. There was no way to organize additional air opposition ... The English coast was already crammed with airfields of four air defense air groups, studded with British radar masts, like Christmas trees in the forest. But against the mass of aircraft that the Germans and Russians threw to suppress the combat forces of the metropolis, it was not possible to do anything.

It was no longer possible to lie about "the aims of the war", about the "defense of democracy" and so on... Britain in the form of leaflets:

"To the English people!

We, the leaders of the Quadruple Alliance of Germany, the Soviet Union, Italy and Japan, appeal to all people of good will on the English Isle with a proposal to immediately stop that war, which is beneficial only to the recipients of war profits on both sides of the Atlantic ... The workers of London and Coventry, Birmingham and Manchester, you are working not to defend your homeland from the enemy, but to

multiplying the bank accounts of the Rothschilds and Beaverbrook, Emery and Baruch, Rockefeller and Morgan, Dupont, Chamberlain and Morgenthau ... The troops of the Quadruple Alliance are fighting against them, and not against the England that gave the world the Magna Carta! Today, Churchill's cabinet is the cabinet of war and national treason! Churchill is paving the way for Yankee Europe just as he did in the First World War. Does Europe need it? Is this necessary for England, which is already paying for the rise of America with its blood for the second time? The City and Wall Street need a war

- in Europe, in Asia. We need peace! That is why the troops of the Quadruple Alliance are marching on the English Isle, and we offer the common English immediately

demand from their

failed rulers: "Go away!" We are ready for

an immediate truce and do not intend to destroy London or any other city in Britain, although today many German cities lie in ruins after the bombings of Churchill. We hope that the British will once again call upon the

throne their rightful monarch, Edward VIII, and elect for themselves such a government as will lead England to a just peace and cooperation in Europe, in Asia, and everywhere - in any

place of the planet.

No to plutocratic warmongers! Yes, to peacekeepers and workers!

Adolf Gitler,

Joseph Stalin,

Benito Mussolini,

Hirohito."

This appeal hit the English common mass more powerfully than any "carpet" bombing. An ordinary Englishman is used to being law-abiding, but he always sat inside him - let

and long covered with beer foam - Robin Hood, who did not tolerate the unjustly rich. Foam was swept away by the wind from the continent, but Robin did not pull his bow, because he suddenly saw that he was protecting not "good old England", but the privileges of bankers, businessmen and landlords.

English distances are not even Polish ... From Dover to London - a hundred kilometers, and there were no defensive lines on the way to London. Having achieved complete superiority in the crossing zone, the Germans built up their forces on the Island, but did not seek active action, simply occupying the territory. They moved towards London and spread out in breadth, observing the maximum correctness in relation to civilian

population.

Several mixed German-Soviet airborne assault forces landed behind London, and an incredible panic began in the "golden" London. The Cabinet met continuously, and mass demonstrations were already sweeping through the capital. No one undertook to suppress them, and the demands of posters and speakers were simple: "The cabinet of war - resign! Yes, to the cabinet of the world!" Churchill was shocked. He understood

that he had to leave, and did not believe that he would have to leave in the next, obviously, hours. I couldn't believe it - after all, behind him, behind Sir Winston, there were such powerful forces! For almost three years the United States drove and drove armaments to England and satiated her with weapons in anticipation of the hour when, following their weapons, they themselves would come to Europe. Everything had to be the way it happened in 1918, when the Yankees came to the Old World as arbiters of destinies, as creditors to the debtor, as new owners to their new estate.

They were supposed to come here the same way a second time... And

now? Churchill was shocked. He remembered that First War, which they had so well spent together with Wilson, with Baruch, with Sir Basil Zakharov and Deterding, with Chamberlain and Balfour, with the Rothschilds, Rockefellers, Morgans, Du Ponts, Harrimans, with ... But what is there to count ?! There were many of them who made a profitable business, first on the blood of Europe, and then on its sweat and tears.

Then the Treaty of Versailles, signed at the Paris Conference in 1919, twisted the Germans into a ram's horn. In August 1924, at the London Conference, it was decided to milk Germany according to the Dawes plan. The then vice president of SITA, Charles Gates Dawes, founder of Chicago's largest bank, the Illinois Central Trust, was associated with both the Morgan group and the rest of the powers that be, and soon became a symbol of Yankee hegemony in Europe. Unrestrainedly impudent, not restrained by any moral considerations, Dawes during the First World War, in the rank of general, organized military supplies to Europe together with Baruch and then became close friends with Sir Winston. Then, having an excellent understanding of the situation in post-war Europe, Dawes set about systematically organizing the penetration of American capital into all the most important countries of Europe, especially Germany and France.

England, however, was not forgotten by him either, just like the United States itself. In 1932, during the Hoover presidency, Dawes headed the state-owned Reconstructive Finance Corporation - RFC. It provided government loans to industrialists and banks. Dawes soon left the RFC, but his bank in Illinois received a loan of \$90 million, although his total assets did not exceed \$95 million. Even the long-suffering and accommodating - if we are talking

about bankers - the US Congress then wanted to understand the tricks of Dawes and his ilk. And in the same 1932 - already a crisis for America - the Senate Banking Commission decided to find out exactly how the rulers of the world ruled the world ... Later, the American bourgeois publicist Professor Seligman wrote about it this way:

“The General Counsel of the commission, Ferdinand Pecora, entered into its minutes the sad news of the venality of the business ... The confessions that he wrested from the people who ruled America emitted a “completely unbearable stench.” In the manipulation of the securities market, in the pools, in the fraudulent speculation in the exchange rates ... members of the government, ambassadors, generals, college presidents, professors, and even the former president of the United States have become involved. Elite of America

indulged in indescribable gluttony at a common banquet table. The country was the patrimony of the rich, and now they are pilloried ... "

Of course, the professor gave out wishful thinking - what kind of "shameful pillars" are there! In the summer of 1932, war veterans marched on Washington, demanding higher pensions. And General Douglas MacArthur, with the help of General George Patton and Major Dwight Eisenhower, swept their columns and kicked the veterans and cripples out of their pitiful hovels. Ten years have passed. MacArthur, now himself kicked

out of the Philippines

by the Japanese, was appointed Supreme Commander in the South West Pacific in May 1942 and sat with his headquarters in Brisbane, Australia. Patton and Eisenhower switched places - the fit General Eisenhower became General Patton's boss and was preparing to take the

post of commander of US troops in Europe, although he did not have any troops there. So, instead of the pillory, the executioners of the American people received new stars on their generals' baseball caps and new stars on their chests. It was

not stars from the sky that were put into pockets, but cash - as a payment for faithful service to that Golden Elite, which "indulged in indescribable gluttony at a common feast table."

And now this elite was, like Churchill, in shock. If not everything collapsed, then a lot. In March 1941, Stalin told Matsuoka that European problems would be solved naturally if Japan and the Soviet Union cooperated, and Matsuoka answered that not only European, but also Asian. And Stalin agreed that in this case the whole world would be equipped. Now Russia, Germany, Italy and Japan were cooperating together in the

world. And the world had to settle down somehow in a new way... Its contours were still very unsteady, its prospects were still very unreliable, but it was already clear that this should be a world without wars.

Without

wars! That is, it was supposed to be a world of common work, fun and common confidence in the future.

What else do normal people need to be happy?

Wehrmacht stood near London. And not only Churchill and the Churchillites were shocked - the Dulles brothers and Bill Donovan were losing their temper overseas, George Patton, who, like his boss Eisenhower, was late for Europe, was pouring obscene words right and left. Billionaires have already slowly, just in case, begun to transfer part of the capital from the States to safe safes in Switzerland, in the expectation that Switzerland will remain it - no matter what happens. Many industrialists in the Reich were not very happy with such a stormy summer of 1942 - after all, Flick was closer to Morgan and Morgenthau than the Bolshevik Stalin. After all, the German factories of Oppel belonged to the American General Motors, and Hugo Stinnes had his own business in the States. So the "fuhrers of the economy" in the Reich were far from happy with everything. However, Hitler, having found stability in an alliance with Russia, felt more and more independent of both the industrialists and the anti-communist elite.

And only the multimillionaire "outsider" Joseph Kennedy did not fall into despondency. A descendant of rabid red-haired Irish Catholic émigrés, he, a red-haired man himself, was fierce in defending his right to do as he saw fit and not some baruchs. He respected decisive people, and Stalin and Hitler were now showing the whole world that they were decisive people. "Soon they will shake the States, too," Kennedy declared almost publicly, without much fear of condemnation.

- And you? Will they shake you too? they asked him. "I am ready to give half myself if they leave the other half to me," Joseph laughed. - And they will leave it to me ... I am not Baruch! And such a mood carried

the features of a different future for America. Roosevelt in Washington, like

Churchill in London, held conference after conference. Everything immediately piled up - and the need to decide something with Europe, and the question of whether to declare war on Russia, and

the prospects for a war in the Pacific if war is declared on Russia. There was nothing to help

Churchill - the "flying fortresses" did not reach the places of European battles without an intermediate landing. And there was no time for anything else.

The declaration of war on Russia only aggravated the situation, and it was decided to postpone this. But this decision only increased the hatred for the Soviets - and so in Washington persistent, old-fashioned.

It was especially frightening that the flows of gold and raw materials to the States from the outside world were already declining and could soon be reduced threateningly ...

Despondency, despondency covered Uncle Sam and his "golden" sons. Churchill's cabinet fell a week after the start of Operation Luftleve on June 29, 1942. The Duke of Windsor, ex-King Edward VIII, flew to London to negotiate with his younger brother George VI. London arranged a grand meeting for Edward.

The fighting subsided by itself - the Germans did not advance, the British did not try to advance. On behalf of the former and current king, a new cabinet was proposed to be formed by Sir Oswald Mosley. It was still not clear whether this was a transitional option or power for a long time, but it was clear that the new situation required new people and new ideas. Mosley's cabinet made a formal truce

with the Quadruple Alliance, and Ribbentrop and Ciano set off across the Channel for a series of meetings to discuss the situation. With them was the Berlin ambassador of Japan, General Oshima. And Andrei Yanuaryevich Vyshinsky flew from Moscow to London as an extraordinary ambassador for special assignments.

The first step of the new cabinet was the refusal to coordinate the military policy of Britain with the United States and the Lend-Lease program. Stalin in Moscow and Hitler in Berlin declared that neither the USSR nor the Reich wanted the humiliation of the people of England and the belittling of her national state. Britain was, is and will continue to be a great power among other great national powers. However, it was clear that the British Empire was going

down in history ... The blow to Scapa Flow, the Home Fleet sounded like a death knell

along it, and a signal alarm for "colored" imperial colonies and vassal territories. India was

already free. And now Northern Ireland, the only European colony of Britain, was leaving the empire. The Irish rebelled against the Britons more than once, Germany helped them more than once. On December 6, 1921, the Anglo-Irish Treaty was concluded, according to which the southern part of Ireland was declared the Irish Free State and received the rights of a dominion of the British Empire. The northern part, Ulster, the Britons left behind. In 1937, on December 29, Ireland proclaimed itself the independent state of Eire, although external relations were still conducted on behalf of the English king. Now, with the end of Sir Winston's era, Ireland was finally withdrawing from the British Empire. The Irish Republic was formed, which included Ulster.

Canada has always been more connected with America than with Britain. But the island of Newfoundland off its coast, which became a colony of Great Britain since 1933, the Quadruple Union proposed to internationalize in the

future. The distant Australian Union, losing its metropolis on the European side of the Atlantic, hesitated, but even formally left the South African Union empire. In 1910, eight years after the Boer War, Britain united the former White Boer republics and the British colonies of Cape and Natal into it, but the Boers remembered past times. In 1940, the Reich thought about the possibility of Operation Hawthorn - organizing an anti-English uprising in southern Africa. Veterans of the famous war of the beginning of the century were still alive, and they could shake the old days with serious external support. Now everything was arranged without an uprising - the former Orange Free State and the South African Republic of Transvaal were proclaimed again independent. The Cape Colony and Natal joined them.

The fate of "black" English "Africa" was to be the subject of a separate conversation between nations. Let not in the next few days, but this conversation was coming to the world ... Former German South-West Africa, Northern Rhodesia, Tanganyika (former German East Africa), Cameroon, Uganda, Kenya stretched out on the political map of the world as a continuous green "British" strip from the African south to

east and center of the continent. It was too early to talk about their independence, but the British sun should no longer blind the ingenuous Negro eyes ...

The Arab East had been independent since the end of 1941, and now English Southeast Asia was also being freed from English patronage - local nationalists preferred to seek a common language with the Japanese. There were stormy processes going on in the English colonies. The whole world blew.

Seething and expecting changes for the better ... Argentina occupied the Falkland Islands. But the whole of Latin America began to lean towards the conclusion that the time of the Monroe Doctrine was passing for it. With the help of the Germans and Russians, the South Americans were ready to fight for the right to South America, to their own house.

In the States - in New York's Harlem - a "black" uprising broke out. Malcolm X became its leader ... The uprising was quickly suppressed, Malcolm managed to escape to Mexico, but what happened did not add confidence to the "golden" Yankees.

* * *

HOWEVER, the Golden Cosmopolitans were not inclined to surrender the planet to the forces of Good without a final fight - nuclear work was in full swing in the USA. And events in Europe only spurred them on. On June 17, 1942, the head of the first atomic program, Vannevar Bush, presented a report to Roosevelt, where it was said that several kilograms of uranium-235 or a new, artificial element, plutonium-239, could be exploded with the release of energy equal to the explosive power of several thousand tons of trinitrotoluene. Bush wrote that it was time to start building industrial and research nuclear facilities. And five days later, the sky over the English Channel was buzzing from an avalanche of aircraft that

launched Operation Air Lion. And Bush's report was in ever-increasing demand at the top.

Roosevelt advisor Jeffrey Sachs and Roosevelt mentor Baruch, after reading the report, they looked at each other, and Sachs asked:

— Is it time?

“Yes, we are even late, Geoffrey,” agreed Baruch. “So, do you need to prepare papers?” - Necessary! Baruch flashed his elegant

glasses, adjusted his snow-white

cuff of his shirt and inquired from Bush, who was present right there: - By what date will everything be ready for the signing of the FDR? Bush shrugged his shoulders:

- Somewhere in the second

half of August ... - Hurry up, so that the date of approval was the thirteenth, - ordered Baruch.

Now Bush and Sachs looked at each other.

And Bush, smiling knowingly, said: “Of course, sir...



On August 13, 1942, the Special District of Engineer Troops was established. He received the name Manhattan, and his task was the practical development of the atomic bomb. The Golden International began to create its absolute superweapon. Project Manager forty-six-year-old Brigadier General Leslie Groves. Some said about him: “A

huge lone wolf”, others: “The biggest son of a bitch”, but at the same time one of the most capable people” ... Robert Oppenheimer became the scientific supervisor. His friend Haa-kon Chevalier said of him:

- Oppie looks like a young Einstein and at the same time overgrown boy from the church choir.

Groves defined Oppenheimer and his scientific colleagues differently.

“Expensive crazy bowlers,” he said openly. But these are all Nobel laureates! -

objected to him. “Well, then, this is the greatest gang of prima donnas gathered in

one place.

Before being appointed to the “atomic generals”, Groves built a new building for the military department - the Pentagon. This grandiose pentagon was intended to represent a new and absolute center

world power - the Power of Golden Evil. Now Groves was entrusted with the leadership of new works, the success or failure of which decided the fate of the Elite. In the United States, they began to build closed "atomic" cities. In

the Tennessee River Valley is the town of Oak Ridge, where uranium-235 was isolated from uranium ore. Hanford appeared in the desert on the south bank of the Columbia River, where uranium-235 was converted into plutonium in a nuclear

reactor. In the state of New Mexico, on the Los Alamos Plateau, not far from the capital of the state of Santa Fe, an atomic center, the "capital" of the Los Alamos Manhattan project, appeared, the main scientific value.

Mountains, mountain valleys and canyons, pine trees, sand, deserted people...

The place was chosen by Oppenheimer himself - it was convenient for business reasons, but the fact that he studied in these

places.

Soon about four thousand people worked in the "City of the Atomic Bomb". Scientists set to work with complex feelings - their initial enthusiasm somehow suddenly began to fade ... In Europe, something incomprehensible was happening, and a leaflet with an appeal to England by the "Big Four" introduced additional confusion into the minds of physicists. Some of the English were thinking of returning home, and only the enormity of the scientific task kept them in Los Alamos for the time being.

However, work began and expanded. And along the streets of Los Alamos, Klaus Fuchs, an émigré physicist from Germany, was heading to his laboratory in the morning. That "not a communist, but a good guy," about whom Merkulov reported to Stalin in the Kremlin. The

Reich lagged far behind in atomic matters. By the end of 1941, the Norwegian Hydroelectric Company had increased its production of heavy water by more than ten times, but it was still not enough for a nuclear reactor to start working in Germany.

The atomic work itself was not organized in the best way - it turned out to be dispersed between several centers. And the erroneous bet of physicists on "heavy" water instead of graphite as the material for the neutron moderator in the reactor still did not give the Germans a decisive breakthrough.

Things, however, gradually moved. At the Norwegian plant in Vemork, the monthly production of heavy water increased to 103

kilograms. In Germany, in Zaheim, they assembled an installation for the production of up to 4 kilograms of it per day. Baron Manfred

von Ardenne had some success in enriching uranium by magnetic separation of isotopes, but the rotors of Dr. Groth's ultracentrifuges, designed for the same purpose, had so far been blown to pieces - the speeds of rotation were too high. By May 1, 1942, the Degussa firm had produced almost three and a half tons of uranium metal powder, some of which was received by Professor Heisenberg. His Leipzig Institute was completing preparations for an experiment on a uranium "boiler" - a nuclear reactor

called like that.

On June 4, 1942, Minister of Armaments Speer held a meeting with physicists in Berlin. There were also generals, and from the Luftwaffe - Field Marshal Milch. "The project of splitting

the atom is of burning interest to us," Goering admonished him. - I am sure that Luftlev will bring us success, but we need to think about America.

Yes, my Reichsmarschall! Moreover, there, too, they probably do not sleep.



But it was far from real results, although Heisenberg's spring experiment numbered L-III was relatively successful, and in the new "cauldron" L-IV, it was decided to increase the "cauldron" L-III is another layer of uranium.

On June 22, 1942, Operation Luftleve broke the lull in Europe. And the next day, something unexpected also began to happen in the Heisenberg reactor - the temperature in the container with the reactor was rapidly rising. In the pool of water, where the "boiler" was immersed, a chain of air bubbles turned silver - a reaction was underway with the release of hydrogen. At 6 pm, Heisenberg was called to the pool with the reactor - the water began to boil. A few minutes later, a powerful explosion shook the laboratory, and jets of burning uranium hit the ceiling. Heisenberg and Professor Doppel had barely escaped the room a moment before.

The firefighters called by Doppel arrived eight minutes later, and after the fire was put out, their fireman exclaimed with admiration:

— Oh, gentlemen! On behalf of all my guys, I thank you for the magnificent spectacle of the splitting of the atom!



However, the reaction was not a chain, not nuclear, but purely chemical - water leaked into uranium, and an explosive gas mixture was formed. As a result, Germany lost an atomic laboratory in Leipzig, stocks of uranium and heavy water. The prospects for the German atomic bomb have moved into an even more distant future - a very distant one even without it.

In the USSR, the chief curator of the Atomic Project, Lavrenty Beria, introduced Igor Kurchatov and Yuli Khariton to a pleasant-looking, youthful general.

"Muzrukov," he introduced himself, shaking hands with the professors. - Comrade Muzrukov was the director of Uralmash, - Beria explained, - and now he will be the director of the Institute "C".
And what is this institution? Kurchatov asked. - This is an institute where you, Igor Vasilyevich, will be the supervisor, and you, Yuliy Borisovich, will be the chief designer. And he will develop the "C" jet engine. So that's what *it* 's going to be called? - Yes. Outside the window was the middle of July 1942. In all documents of the Atomic Project, uranium-235 was coded as "supercement", and the "cementation" process was successfully developed. Kurchatov was surprised:

- And why "S", Lavrenty Pavlovich? From "supercement"? - And count as you wish ... Or so ... We will consider that "C", because for other people's eyes your institute will be the Institute ... the Institute ... pine, here! Like, we are engaged in forest affairs ... So look for a place somewhere in the forests rich in pine.

— Why not in Moscow? - No!
There are many curious eyes and ears here.

- Well, maybe near Kharkov, in Pyatikhatki? We are already there
work - in the Ukrainian Phystech.

- No, you need something quieter ... But not so far from Moscow either.
Look for ... Keep in mind - in America a secluded place has already been found
and the main laboratory will be built there. So we will build in a new place too!
Look for ... The general engineer and two

professors of physics left Beria's office thoughtful. They had to search for a
place for a new institution, the search for truth and the struggle for success.

ENGLAND now had no time for nuclear work - it ended the era of Winston
Churchill. A new history of Britain and a new history of Europe were beginning.

In Asia, the war was still taking its toll. America's long-established military
machine with its aircraft factories and shipyards, with tank workshops of
automobile companies and with new artillery factories was launched at full
speed, and the Golden Elite could not simply refuse military profits, especially
since it was supposed to have a superbomb in stock. . The last empire of the
World Evil was still strong and rich, and its Pentagon directed its rays to all five
cardinal directions. Yes, America was still rich and strong. However, from
Europe, the flow of

gold into it stopped, because there was no more blood flowing in Europe.
Europe looked to the future. But it was still very, very vague.

THE AUTUMN HAS COME... The summer of 1942 has become a thing of
the past. Guderian's troops set up their camps in Suez, Rokossovsky's
troops near Delhi. Paratroopers of the Luftwaffe and the Red Army,

jumped into the June air over the English Isle, settled near London by agreement with the Mosley cabinet.

America lurked across the ocean for the time being. Japan was fortifying itself in the territories it occupied... The war with America and the need to partner with three European allies under the Quadruple Pact held back her samurai ambitions for unbridled dictate in Asia. Hitler, Mussolini and Stalin transparently hinted to Tokyo that such a policy should not be pursued when anti-British sentiments were replaced by anti-Japanese ones. General Tojo grimaced, but he understood that he could win the battle for the Pacific Ocean only together with European

partners. Britain was not occupied, but so far more than a hundred thousand allied troops remained on its territory, and British units mothballed their heavy weapons in zones protected by German and Russian paratroopers. Equipment was partially removed from the aircraft of the Royal Air Force, and the territory of the airfields was patrolled by mixed patrols of the Wehrmacht and the British.

Some problems disappeared, others appeared.

But the main problem was over - peace reigned in Europe.

And in the autumn of Moscow, walking hand in hand, a guy and a girl - new students of Moscow University. They had just met and were happy about it. She is a native Muscovite, he came to Moscow from the Donbass, from Krasnodon. Her name was

Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya. His
is Oleg Koshevoy.

And the autumn Arbat opened its cozy lanes to them.

There was a great and happy life ahead.

Afterword

My book is finished, dear reader. However, before we finally part with you, I propose to return from the difficult virtuality of the unfulfilled 1942 to the difficult reality of our days. Two decisive imprints were left on the history of the

20th century.
events - one held, and the other - failed.

The first is our Russian Great October Socialist Revolution of 1917. Only Russians, and even then thanks to the presence of such an outstanding leader as Lenin, were able to understand: some with the mind, some with the soul, and some with the tanned common people's skin, that capitalism, having started the First World War, completely exhausted itself as a force of creation and progress. That now, having drunk the blood of the peoples from the golden goblet of military profits, he will more and more turn into a bloodthirsty beast, more and more hungry for these profits, and therefore more and more hungry for blood. Having

thrown off the power of the Golden International, Russia by 1941 had achieved tremendous success! And went to even greater success. Let's say that the picture of energy construction that Stalin's Deputy Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars of the USSR Ivan Tevosyan painted in front of Goering and the German industrialists in my book (he actually became Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR in the Khrushchev 50s), was literally taken by me from the brochure "Great buildings of the Stalin era", published by Gospolitizdat in 1950. Five years after the real Great War. If this war had

not happened, the political publishing brochure would most likely have the exit date "1945". Or maybe even earlier! The second key event of the

20th century, alas, did not take place ... I mean that virtual Brest meeting between Stalin and Hitler, which is briefly described in the prologue of my book. The virtual assumption of such an event is not a gamble, but a completely scientifically sound act within the framework of

strictly scientific alternative historical analysis. Let me remind you that for the first time the topic of a personal meeting between Stalin and Hitler arose during the conversations between Stalin and Ribbentrop, who arrived in Moscow in September 1939 to conclude the Treaty of Friendship and the Border after the defeat of Poland. Hitler also spoke about its desirability to Molotov, a year later, in Berlin. A possible visit of Stalin to Berlin appeared in the diplomatic correspondence of the Reich in the spring of 1940. Stalin could not help but think about meeting with the Fuhrer.

So what could *it* be! And if this happened, then the war between the Russians and the Germans - the war that the Golden Cosmopolitans of the whole world needed blood from the nose (Russian and German) would not have happened.

Well, most likely, it would not have happened... And without such a war, there could be no question of the future of Pax Americana, of a world controlled from the headquarters of the World Evil - the States of America United by this Evil. If it were not for that black year of 1941, when our fathers and grandfathers began their mortal battle for the Motherland, then there would be no black, disastrous and inglorious year for the Motherland of 1991, after which Russia was led without any fight

and is being led to the slaughter. What could Russia and the planet be like if the builders of the new Russia did not die defending it in 1941 near Minsk, Kiev, Odessa, Sevastopol, Kharkov, Smolensk, Tula and Moscow, but continued to build it? Build in the 41st, in the 42nd, in the 43rd years ...

How would the fate of Russia have developed if the generation of two Heroes of the Soviet Union, Zoya Kosmodemyanskaya and Oleg Koshevoy, who were awarded this title posthumously, entered **fully alive** into its not military, but still peaceful life of the forties ? And what would

be the fate of Germany if in 1941 her sons did not go, rolling up their sleeves of tunics, through the burning Belarus and Ukraine, but would strike at the Anglo-Saxons in hot Africa, reaching the no less hot Middle East?

It is clear that this would be a difficult world, where peoples would have to work hard to gain mutual understanding. After all, before that, all the strength and power of Gold was aimed at separating

nations and inspire them with distrust and disrespect for each other. And this approach has been developed for centuries.

But if one day, young, healthy, full of life and energy, blond Aryans and blue-eyed Russians, brown-eyed Ukrainians and white-toothed Americans, melodious Italians and expressive French, restrained Englishmen and light-bodied Japanese and Chinese, refined Indians and refined Arabs, then they would laugh, wink at each other, drink cheerful wine and satiate with appetite the generous gifts of our mother Earth. "It would be great in such a company!" - it was rightly said once in one good song! After all, it is natural for people to live, not to

die ... And this is even more characteristic of normal, hardworking, cheerful and cheerful people. They want to build, not destroy! Giving life, not taking it away.

Only the degenerates of the human race - those who, for their right to a fat, greedy piece is ready to lie and destroy, this is not typical. It is they who arrange wars for the world.

* * *

STALIN and Hitler, Russians and Germans, speaking together, could give these geeks a hard hand. But it turned out differently - not by the will of the peoples, but by the will of the cosmopolitan elite and its agents of influence. And millions of blond Germans - National Socialists - perished on the fields of Russia, Europe and Germany. And millions of fair-haired and black-haired builders of Soviet socialism left for the same land, not having time to do what they were intended to do.

What is the

result? Germany today is spiritually castrated, while Russia is dismembered and destroyed. But the Golden Billion is swollen with arrogance and complacency. This is the future opposed in my jointly nationalist Third book Reich and socialist Soviet Union.

And there were objective conditions for that. By 1941, Russia had become from the "NEP" socialist, and the power of Capital in it was

completely overthrown, although, as the future showed, not completely. In Germany, however, state capitalism became the leading force. In Italy, too. Portugal, like Italy, was built on similar corporate principles, and in Japan the position of the state in the economy has traditionally been strong since the days of the Meiji Revolution. This was the material base of a possible world without wars, when strong states

and peoples, through all the troubles of discussions and sharp disagreements, come to an honest division of the world between them. To such a division, which in the future leads to the unification of peoples into a single planetary family. But since a fair division excluded the current fried-up States and the "developed" West from

the future world, the forces of the Golden Evil pitted the Russians and Germans for the second time.

The consequences of this we disentangle the whole world. And we'll still unravel.

And another question - will we

disentangle? Although ... It's better to live standing than to die on your knees. Is not it?

RUSSIAN Pe-8s and German "Junkers" did not fly in a single formation either over Britain or over the "golden" island of Manhattan. And the past can be "replayed" only on the pages of a book - which I, the author, did. However, we have a future. It

is still unclear, but it will be! This is its inherent property, and therefore we, one way or another, will see it. Nevertheless, our analysis of the past will not be complete without answering the question: "What could be the further virtual development of the world after the virtual summer of 1942 described in this book?" Well, my dear reader! Maybe I'll tell you about that too.

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